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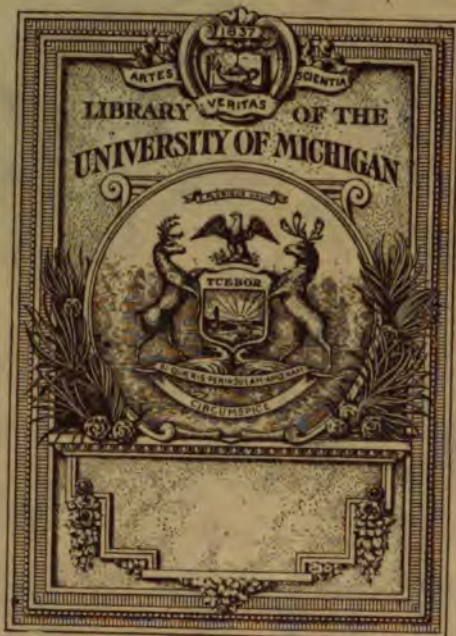
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ALEXANDER ANDREWS,

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VOLUME III.

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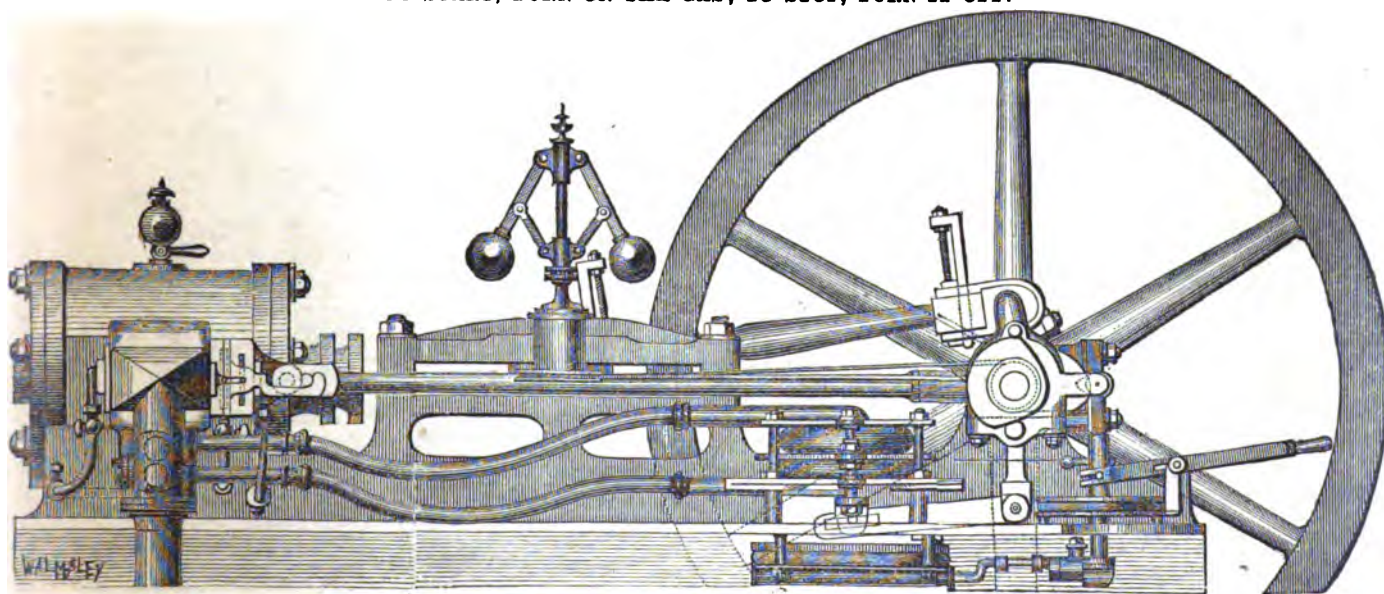
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with the motto, "The Flag that's braved a thousand years, the Battle and the Breeze." And its flag seemed likely to float a hundred years, at least, whilst Coulton, Croly, and Thackeray were on the roll. The shape was, in a year or two, altered to that of the *John Bull* or *Weekly Dispatch*; the *Conservative Journal* was absorbed into it, and the Oxford element gradually changed its character. When I returned to London after a provincial engagement, I found the promising *Britannia* incorporated with the *John Bull*.

Thirty years ago, the *Atlas*, the *Spectator*, and the *Examiner* were *tenpenny* papers! But they were all above the average, and the forerunners of essay papers like the *Saturday Review*, and its long second and third, the *London Review*, and the (second) *Leader*. Then came, at least twenty years ago, the *Topic*, a most promising small quarto, published by Mitchell of Red Lion-court, and written well, dealing with the current topic of the day in quite "Edinburgh Review" style—it was in advance of its time, I suppose; but it was clever.

I wish I had some text to refresh my memory; for "twenty years ago" there were papers that ought not to be "almost forgotten." I am afraid I have lost my little calf-bound "London Directory" of 1837 and 1839 (the precursor of the giant "Kelly"), or the page or two reciting the titles of "London and country newspapers," beginning with *Age* and *Albion*, (where is the *Albion* now?) would jog my memory, I dare say. But *n'importe*; Mr. Carp is proud of the progress made in English journalism in the time of his experience, though he can claim no share in aiding it. A modest man is Mr. Carp—with a much smaller opinion of himself than he had twenty, twenty-two, or thirty years ago—and he confidently leaves the honour of the Press in safe keeping and in younger hands.

F. C.

THE NEW NEWS COLLECTING ARRANGEMENTS.

THE organization of the New Press Association (Limited) is progressing favourably. The first members were Messrs. Taylor, of the *Manchester Guardian*, Jaffray of the *Birmingham Daily Post*, Saunders of the *Northern Daily Express*, Harper of the *Huddersfield Chronicle*, Clifford of the *Sheffield Telegraph*, Westcomb of the *Edinburgh Courant*, Ireland of the *Manchester Examiner*, and Sowler of the *Manchester Courier*. The board of directors comprises the same names, to which are added Dr. Cameron of the *North British Daily Mail*, Sir John Gray, M.P., of the *Dublin Freeman's Journal*, F. D. Finlay of the *Belfast Northern Whig*, J. Glover of the *Royal Leamington Spa Courier*, and J. W. Naylor of the *Cambridge Chronicle*. The committee of management consists of Messrs. Taylor, Jaffray, Saunders, Harper, and Clifford. The proprietors of all the principal provincial newspapers have already joined the Association, and we understand that all the arrangements will be completed by the time when the telegraphs are handed over to the Government.

PRIVILEGED PARLIAMENTARY REPORTS AND COMMENTS.

THE judgment in the case of *Wason v. Walter* (see "Law Intelligence" in our present number), is of so great importance, that our readers will pardon our putting it upon record *in extenso*. The previous judgment of the Lord Chief Justice on the same case will be found at page 33 of our second volume:—The main question for their decision was, whether a report in a public newspaper of a debate in either house of Parliament, containing matter disparaging to the character of an individual which had been spoken in debate, was actionable at the suit of the party whose character was called in question. They were of opinion that it was not. Important as the question was, it came now for the first time before a court of Law for decision. Numerous as were the instances in which the conduct and character of individuals had been called in question in Parliament during the many years parliamentary debates had been reported in the public journals, this was the first instance in which an action for libel founded on a report of a Parliamentary debate had come before a court of law. There was, therefore, a total absence of direct authority to guide them. There were indeed the dicta of judges having re-

ference to the point in question, but they were conflicting and inconclusive, and might be said to be extra-judicial. Decided cases thus leaving us without authority on which to proceed in the present instance, we must have recourse to principle in order to arrive at a solution. And fortunately we have not far to seek before we find a principle applicable to the case, and which will afford a safe and sure foundation for our judgment. It is now well established that faithful and fair reports of the proceedings of courts of justice, though the character of individuals may incidentally suffer, are privileged, and that for the publication of such reports the publishers are neither criminally nor civilly responsible. The immunity thus afforded in respect of the proceedings of courts of justice rests upon a twofold ground. In the English law of libel malice is said to be the gist of an action for defamation. And though it is true that by malice, as necessary to give a cause of action in respect of a defamatory statement, legal and not actual malice is meant, while by legal malice, as is explained by Mr. Justice Bayley, in "*Bromage v. Prosser*" (4 B. and C., 255), is meant no more than the wrongful intention which the law always presumes as accompanying a wrongful act, without any proof of malice in fact, yet the presumption of law may be rebutted by the circumstances under which the defamatory matter has been uttered or published; and if this should be the case, though the character of the party concerned may have suffered, no right of action will arise. "The rule," says Lord Campbell, in the case of "*Taylor v. Hawkins*," "is, that if the occasion be such as repels the presumption of malice, the communication is privileged, and the plaintiff must then, if he can, give evidence of actual malice." It is thus that in the case of reports of proceedings in the courts of justice, though individuals may occasionally suffer from them, yet as they are published without any reference to the individuals concerned, but solely to afford information to the public and for the benefit of society, the presumption of malice is rebutted, and such publications are held to be privileged. The other and the broader principle on which this exception to the general law of libel is founded is, that the advantage to the community from publicity being given to the proceedings of courts of justice is so great that the occasional inconvenience to individuals arising from it must yield to the general good. It is true that with a view to distinguish the publication of proceedings in Parliament from that of those of courts of justice it has been said that the immunity accorded to the reports of the proceedings of courts of justice is grounded on the fact of the courts being open to the public, while the houses of Parliament are not; as also that by the publication of the proceedings of the courts the people obtain a knowledge of the law by which their dealings and conduct are to be regulated. But in our opinion the true ground is that given by Lawrence Justice in "*The King v. Wright*," namely, that though the publication of such proceedings may be to the disadvantage of the particular individual concerned, yet it is of vast advantage to the public that the proceedings of courts of justice should be universally known; and the general advantage to the country in having these proceedings made public more than counterbalances the inconvenience to private persons whose conduct may be the subject of such proceedings. In "*Davison v. Duncan*" (7 E. and B. 229), Lord Campbell says, "A fair account of what takes place in a court of justice is privileged. The reason is that the balance of public benefit from the publicity is great. It is of great consequence that the public should know what takes place in court, and the proceedings are under the control of the judges. The inconvenience therefore arising from the chance of injury to private character is infinitesimally small as compared to the convenience of publicity." And Mr. Justice Wightman says "the only foundation for the exception is the superior benefit of the publicity of judicial proceedings which counterbalances the injury to individuals, though that at times may be great." Both the principles on which the exemption from legal consequences thus extended to the publication of the proceedings of courts of justice rests appears to us to be applicable to the case before us. The presumption of malice is negatived in the one case as in the other by the fact that the publication has in view the instruction and advantage of the public, and has no particular reference to the party concerned. There is in the one case, as in the other, a preponderance of general good over partial and occasional evil. We entirely concur with Mr. Justice Lawrence in *Rex v. Wright*, that the same reasons as

apply to the reports of the proceedings in courts of justice apply also to the proceedings in Parliament. It seems to us impossible to doubt, that it is of paramount public and national importance that the proceedings of the Houses of Parliament shall be communicated to the public, who have the deepest interest in knowing what passes within their walls, seeing that on what is there said and done the welfare of the community depends. Where would be our confidence in the government of the country, or in the legislature by whom laws are framed, and to whose charge the great interests of the country are committed—where would be our attachment to the constitution under which we live, if the proceedings of the great council of the realm were shrouded in secrecy, and concealed from the knowledge of the nation? How could the communications between the representatives of the people and their constituents, which are so essential to the working of the representative system, be usefully carried on if the constituencies were kept in ignorance of what their representatives are doing? What would become of the right of petitioning on all measures pending in Parliament if the people are to be kept in ignorance of what is passing in either house. Can any man bring himself to doubt that the publicity given in modern times to what passes in Parliament is essential to the maintenance of the relations subsisting between the Government, the legislature, and the country at large? It may, no doubt, be said that while it may be necessary as a matter of national interest that the proceedings in Parliament should in general be made public, yet that debates in which the character of individuals is brought into question ought to be suppressed. But to this, in addition to the difficulty in which parties publishing Parliamentary Reports would be placed, if this distinction was to be enforced, and every debate had to be critically scanned to see whether it contained defamatory matter, it may be further answered that there is perhaps no subject in which the public have a deeper interest than in all that relates to the conduct of the public servants of the State—no subject of Parliamentary discussion which more requires to be made known than an inquiry relating to it. Lastly, what greater anomaly, or more flagrant injustice, could present itself than that, while from a sense of the importance of giving publicity to their proceedings, the Houses of Parliament not only sanction the reporting of these debates, but also take measures for giving facilities to those who report them, while every member of the educated portion of the community, from the highest to the lowest, look with eager interest to the debates of either house, and consider it a part of the duty of the public journals to furnish an account of what passes there, we were to hold that the party publishing a Parliamentary debate is to be held liable to legal proceedings because the conduct of a particular individual may happen to be called in question? The learned counsel for the plaintiff scarcely ventured, as of his own assertion, to deny that the benefit to the public from having the debates in Parliament published was as great as that which arose from the publishing of the proceedings of the courts of justice; but he relied on the dicta of Mr. Justice Little and Mr. Justice Patteson, in *Stockdale v. Hansard*, and on the opinions of certain noble and learned lords in the course of debate in the House of Lords on bills introduced by Lord Campbell for the purpose of amending the law of libel. There is no doubt that in delivering their opinions in *Stockdale v. Hansard*, the two learned judges referred to denied the necessity, and, in effect, the public advantage of the proceedings in Parliament being made public. The counsel for the defendant in that case having insisted, as a reason why the power to order papers to be printed and published should be considered within the privileges of the House of Commons, on the advantage which resulted from the proceedings of Parliament being made known, the two learned judges, not satisfied with demonstrating by irresistible arguments that the House had not the power to order papers of a libellous character, and forming no part of the proceedings of the House, to be printed, still less to conclude the legality of such a proceeding by the assertion of privilege, thought it necessary to follow the counsel into the question of policy and convenience, and in so doing took what we cannot but think a very short-sighted view of the subject. This is the more to be regretted, as their observations apply not only to the printing of papers by order of the House, the only question before them, but also to the publication of parliamentary proceedings in general, the consideration of which was not before

them, and therefore was unnecessary. Lord Denman, in his admirable judgment—than which a finer never was delivered within these walls, and in which the spirit of Holt is combined with the luminous reasoning of Mansfield—while insensibly overthrowing by his arguments the position of the Attorney-General, was content to answer the argument as to the policy of allowing papers to be published by order of either of the Houses of Parliament, not by denying the policy, but by admitting the necessity of legislation as to the power of the House to order the printing and publishing of papers. On the subject of the publication of parliamentary debates he said nothing, nor was he called upon to say anything. That the legislature did not concur with the two judges in their view of the policy is manifest from the act of the 3rd Vic., c. 9, passed in consequence of the decision in *Stockdale v. Hansard*, the preamble of which statute recites that "it is essential to the due and effectual exercise and discharge of the functions and duties of Parliament, and to the promotion of wise legislation, that the obstructions or impediments should exist to the publication of such of the reports, papers, votes, or proceedings of either House of Parliament, as such House of Parliament may deem fit or necessary to be published," after which the act proceeds to provide for the prevention of actions being brought in respect of papers published by order of either House of Parliament. As regards the attempt of Lord Campbell to fix the legality of the publication of parliamentary debates on the sure foundation of statutory enactment, we think it may as well be accounted for by the apprehension in his mind as to the result of any proceeding at law in which the legality of such publication should come in question, produced by the language of the judges in *Stockdale v. Hansard*, as by any conviction of the defectiveness of the law. And as regards the opinions of the noble and learned persons in the debates in the House of Lords, we must observe that the discussion proceeded on the assumption that the publicity of parliamentary debates, if involving defamatory matter, was contrary to law and actionable, although no decision to that effect had ever been pronounced, or any argument or discussion on the point had ever taken place. We, before whom this case is now presented for judicial decision for the first time, and who have had the advantage of able and learned arguments at the bar to assist us, must endeavour to ascertain the law as applicable to the case, and if our minds are satisfied as to what the law is, must decide according to our convictions, undeterred by the authority of names or the opinions of those who, although our superiors in all other respects, had not the advantage of forensic discussion, or the opportunity of a judicial consideration of the subject; and this is more necessary as we observe that one of the main grounds insisted on for resisting Lord Campbell's bills was that there was no necessity for legislation, inasmuch as no action had ever been brought in respect of the publication of a parliamentary debate. To us it seems clear that the principle on which the publication of the reports of the proceedings of courts of justice have been held to be privileged apply to the reports of parliamentary proceedings. The analogy between the two cases is in every respect complete. If the rule had never been applied to the reports of parliamentary proceedings till now, we must assume that it is only because the occasion has never before arisen. If the principles which are the foundation of the privilege in the one case are applicable to the other, we must not hesitate to apply them, more especially when by so doing we avoid the glaring anomaly and injustice to which we have before adverted. Whatever disadvantages attach to a system of unwritten law—and of these we are fully sensible—it has at least this advantage, that its elasticity enables those who administer it to adapt it to the varying conditions of society, and to the requirements and habits of the age in which we live, so as to avoid the inconsistencies and injustice which arise when the law is no longer in harmony with the wants and usages and interests of the generation to which it is immediately applied. Our law of libel has in many respects only gradually developed itself into anything like a satisfactory and settled form. The full liberty of public writers to comment on the conduct and motives of public men has only in very recent times been recognised. Comments on Government, on ministers and officers of state, on members of both Houses of Parliament, on judges and other public functionaries, are now made every day, which half a century ago would have been the subject of

ex officio informations, and would have brought down fine and imprisonment on publishers and authors. Yet who can doubt that the public are gainers by the change, and that, though injustice may often be done, and though public men may often have to smart under the keen sense of wrong inflicted by hostile criticism, the nation profits by public opinion being thus freely brought to bear on the discharge of public duties? Again, the recognition of the right to publish the proceedings of courts of justice has been of modern growth. Till a comparatively recent time the sanction of the judges was thought necessary, even for the publications of the decisions of the courts upon points of law. Even in quite recent days judges in holding the publication of the proceedings of courts of justice lawful, have thought it necessary to distinguish what are called *ex parte* proceedings as a probable exception from the operation of the rule. Yet *ex parte* proceedings before magistrates, and even before this court, as for instance, on applications for criminal informations, are published every day; but such a thing as an action or indictment founded on a report of such an *ex parte* proceeding is unheard of, and if any such action or indictment should be brought, it would probably be held that the true criterion of the privilege is not whether the report was or was not *ex parte*, but whether it was a fair and honest report of what had taken place, published simply with a view to the information of the public, and innocent of all intention to do injury to the reputation of the party affected. It is to be observed that the analogy between the case of reports of proceedings in courts of justice and those of proceedings in parliament being complete, all the limitations placed on the one to prevent injustice to individuals will necessarily attach to the other. A garbled or partial report, or of detached parts of proceedings, published with intent to injure individuals, will equally be disentitled to protection. We are of opinion that the direction given to the jury was perfectly correct. The publication of the debate having been justifiable, the jury were properly told that the subject was, for the reasons we have already adverted to, one pre-eminently of public interest, and therefore one on which public comment and observation might properly be made; and that, consequently, the occasion was privileged in the absence of malice. As to the latter, the jury were told that they must be satisfied that the article was an honest and fair comment on the facts; in other words, that in the first place they must be satisfied that the comments had been made with an honest belief in their justice; but that this was not enough, inasmuch as such belief might originate in the blindness of party zeal, or in personal or political aversion; that a person taking upon himself publicly to criticize and condemn the conduct or motives of another must bring to the task not only an honest sense of justice, but also a reasonable degree of judgment and moderation, so that the result may be what a jury shall deem under the circumstances of the case a fair and legitimate criticism on the conduct and motives of the party who is the object of censure. Considering the direction thus given to have been perfectly correct, we are of opinion that in respect of this alleged misdirection, as also on the former point, the ruling at Nisi Prius was right, and that consequently this rule must be discharged.

Rule discharged accordingly.

WRITING FOR THE PRESS.

(From the Round Table.)

SYDNEY SMITH said that every man fancied that he could do three things, at least—drive a gig, manage a farm, and edit a newspaper. This delusion (with respect to journalism especially) is wide-spread, if it is not universal, among educated men. And yet there is nothing more difficult to do conscientiously and well, nothing that needs more careful study, than the composition even of occasional contributions to the press. It is a more difficult task than to write a book of ethics, or an essay in a quarterly review, or a pamphlet, or a speech. Why?

Before answering the question, let me say a few words about these different forms of communication with the public. Having used them all (with the exception of the quarterlies), and examined the ethics that belong to each form, I shall draw what I have to say rather from experience in the sanctum than theorizing in the study.

A book is the simplest form of composition. If you have a thought to utter, you should express it, if you write a book, in your own language, without modification, without mental reservation, without a fear of offending any one, and without taking into your counsel the prejudices of your readers. In a book or pamphlet you address your own audience from your own platform; and the public have a perfect protection against your abuse of their courtesy or patience. They can close your book, or burn it. Morally, in a pamphlet or a book, you have no right to compromise with your audience. If you have a handful of truth, throw all of it among the people; and be theirs, not yours, the responsibility of rejection.

The same rule holds good in delivering a speech, if you address your own audience or attract it without artifice. But if you accept an invitation to address an audience not your own, quite another rule applies. For instance, if I am a Baptist preacher and exchange pulpits with a Methodist, I am not justified if I "fail to preach the whole Gospel," because that is the duty of all the Christian clergy; but neither am I to be justified if I leave the broad arena in which all the evangelical churches move in harmony, and enforce the peculiar doctrines which distinguish my own denomination. Neither, if I accept an invitation to write for a Baptist religious journal, would I be justified in advocating, either directly or covertly, religious doctrines at variance with its creed. Without an explicit understanding to the contrary, I am bound to limit my expression of ideas to some of the innumerable topics that exist outside of our theological divergences.

As for quarterlies, it is useless to waste time on them. Their day is past. They are stage-coaches in an era of locomotives, and the expertest driving is thrown away on them. Let us return, then, to the newspaper; and, to limit our topic still further, to the weekly Press.

It is more difficult to be a conscientious occasional contributor to a weekly paper than to be an author or an editor. I mean—let this be understood clearly—to a man who is in earnest; who writes not for pay only, or chiefly, but for the purpose of impressing his ideas on his generation. It is more difficult as a mere literary task as well as in view of the moral obligation imposed on every writer for the Press.

The great secret of successful newspaper writing consists largely in the mastery of the difficult arts of beginning and leaving off. To excel you must write an article as you take a plunge-bath in winter—jump in, all over, instantly, and out again, and off, without wasting a second or a syllable. It seems an easy thing to do. One gets little credit for doing it. But it takes years to learn the art. It is wearying to the mind and body both—at least, if you invest ideas in your writings.

Now, a book is like a warm bath—you may stay in it as long as you please. You may indulge in prefaces, appendices, notes, and digressions without number—any one of which inserted in an article, and submitted to an editor, would send your contribution to the waste-basket.

To the primal direction of "quick in and quick out," I may give one other literary hint to occasional writers. An article should be like a sonnet—perfect in itself, short, and expressing a single idea clearly. If your subject is a fruitful one, select the strategic points only, and mercilessly sacrifice all the others. In a sermon or a lyceum lecture or a pamphlet you may occupy a field; but in a newspaper article you can only hope to seize the important points. Strike out and strike out until these alone remain. It is a hard thing to do; but when you once learn what not to say, your apprenticeship ends. I have found that the best rule to adopt in learning this art is to begin by striking out every pet phrase, every ornamental word, and in general everything that you consider *absolutely essential* to your article! It is the apprentice who believes that it is the thunder that kills and the polished grate that gives out heat. He discovers, after a painful experience of rejected and condensed contributions founded on this theory, that it is lightning that destroys and coal that warms one.

But it is not the lack of skill that makes occasional contributions to the press a more difficult duty than authorship or editorial cares. An editor, like an author, takes his own view of men, affairs, and institutions; and whatever is hostile to it, or does not fit in the main fit in with it, he rejects. This is the common theory

of the editor's duty. He is ranked according to his ability to select, judge, and handle men and topics, rather than by his own individual powers as a writer. Many of the ablest editors in America never write an article for their own journals.

But an occasional contributor, in order to be just to all men, must often sink his own personality. He must learn to talk in the tongue of classes to which he does not as an individual belong.

Mark me, no man is justified in writing a single syllable that he does not fully believe. He who does so is a mere Swiss of the pen, a mercenary, a hireling—fit no longer to be ranked among honourable public teachers, but only with those lawyers who take fees from every client that offers, and defend their personal degradation by professional precedents and precepts equally ignominious. In whatever sphere of life a man is found, it is demanded of him that he shall be true to himself—to his highest nature—that neither for bread nor honours nor power nor fees shall he sell his own soul.

Let me illustrate what I mean by "speaking other tongues."

If I am asked to write for any paper, editorially—that is anonymously—it is my first duty to learn its language; or to *examine its scales*. To convey precisely the same idea, I must use more emphatic words in one newspaper than I would be justified in employing in another journal. Strains, both of praise and blame, should be pitched on the key-note; that is, they should harmonize with the general tone of the paper for which you write. As examples are always better than precepts, I will illustrate my meaning by taking a new book—say, Mrs. Stowe's volume of recent poems.

If I were asked to prepare a notice of it in a paper that praised inferior poems, I could conscientiously write:

"Mrs. Stowe has shown in these poems that she possesses a high idea of poetic talent. Her ability displayed in this style of composition, if less eminent than in romance, is still commanding and undeniable."

And with equal sincerity, in a journal of a higher character, I would write:

"Mrs. Stowe displays decided talent in this as in other forms of composition. But she is not a poet. As a novelist her genius had free range, and was resplendent; as a poet her flight is self-fettered, and her song, never thrilling, is sometimes almost feeble."

Put the first of these criticisms in the second journal, or the second in the first journal, and they would be ungenerous or unjust; but, published in the papers for which each was written, they express expressly the same opinion—however conflicting they may appear at first sight to be.

Just as, when a quiet old gentleman says that it is "rather a wet day," and a young, enthusiastic lady exclaims that it is "a perfectly awful shower," although their language is seemingly conflicting, they mean the same thing; so, in order to be either just to his own ideas or to other men, the occasional contributor, before engaging to write regularly for any journal, should make a serious study of its style.

This obligation does not become so imperative when he is allowed to use a distinctive mark to distinguish his contributions, although, even in that case, he must learn to abate, in some degree, his personal characteristics of style, if they are at variance with the ordinary tone of the journal.

None but professional and conscientious writers ever think of this duty. If I have succeeded in showing that it is a duty, I shall have done no small service, I think, in correcting an evil which leads to a great confusion of ideas in regard to men and measures among the vast classes whose opinions are created by the weekly Press.

M. HAVIN, OF THE PARIS "SIÈCLE."

(From the *Times*.)

A MAN who held a prominent position in the periodical Press, as well as in the Democratic party, has just passed away. M. L. Joseph Havin, editor and political director of the *Siècle* newspaper for 18 years, and member of the Legislative Corps for the Department of La Manche, died on the 13th ult. at his country residence, Thorigny-sur-Vin, in his 69th year. His father sat in the famous Convention, and gave his vote without appeal to the

people for the execution of Louis XVI. On the first restoration of the Bourbons he had to quit France, being, as a regicide, in the category of those who were excluded from the benefit of the indulgence accorded in 1814. He left France in 1816, accompanied by his son, then only 17 years old. They returned in 1820, and established themselves at Caen, where the father died. The younger Havin joined the society of the young men known as the *Jeunesse Libérale*, and held so prominent a place in it that, on the Revolution of 1830, he was sent by the Liberals of that time to Paris, to give information to the Provisional Government as to the acts of the public functionaries of the Departments of the Manche, Calvados, and Orne. He obtained from Dupont de l'Eure, Minister of Justice, the post of Juge de Paix at Saint Lo, which he held till 1835. In the elections of 1831 Havin was returned to the new Chamber as Deputy for his Department, and took his place on the left with Odillon Barrot, who headed the dynastic opposition, and he constantly voted with his leader. In 1839 he was elected one of the secretaries of the Chamber; but in 1842 was, by ministerial influence, deprived of these functions. Though without any pretensions to oratory, he spoke in many of the discussions of the time, and took a leading part in the organization of the Reform Banquet of Thorigny-sur-Vin, of which he published an interesting narrative.

After the Revolution of February, Havin was elected to the Constitutional Assembly, the first in a list of 15, by near 120,000 votes; and, with the exception of the motion for the banishment of the Orleans family, and that of two Chambers instead of one, voted with the Conservative majority on most political and social questions. On the election of Prince Louis Napoleon as President of the Republic he drew nearer to the Democratic party, and voted with them for the prolongation of the Constituent Assembly, until the "organic laws" should be voted. He was named by the Assembly Member of the Council of State in 1849, and resigned his functions as representative. At the general election (1863) he was put forward for Paris, and was returned by the capital, and at the same time by the electors of the Manche. He took his seat for the latter, which he held till his death.

To the political direction of the *Siècle* he had succeeded on the death of M. Perrée some 18 years since. The *Siècle* has long had the largest circulation of any newspaper in France, and M. Havin appears to have managed it with remarkable tact. It is the journal most in vogue among what is called the *petite bourgeoisie* of Paris. It is sufficiently forward in opposition to please that class of persons who love to tease every Government, but who recoil from extreme measures likely to be productive of dangerous results. Its opinions on religious topics, too, are such as to make it popular with those who, while professing to be superior to prejudice in these matters, rarely neglect sending their children to their first communion; and M. Havin, who not long ago took the initiative in the subscription for the erection of a statue to Voltaire, contrived to remain on excellent terms with the clergy of his department. He was no more of a writer than a speaker. He very rarely contributed articles with his own signature to his paper, and when he did they were characterized by a certain dogmatism and a pompous style which exposed him to the sarcasms of his more witty opponents in the press. He professed to be of the Opposition, but it was an opposition which apparently did not give very deep offence in high quarters. When starting as candidate in the last elections for Thorigny-sur-Vin he solicited and readily obtained a recommendation to the electors from the Government, and this was a constant subject of attack on the part of his opponents. He managed too, to keep on very good terms with people in power, and more than once has been a guest at the Tuileries and the Palais Royal, which has also been made a matter of reproach to him. In his own department, where he possessed some property, he was not without influence, to which his connexion with the *Siècle* contributed a good deal. Without any remarkable talent, he was a shrewd, clever man, who, both as journalist and politician, took care to keep on the safe side of the line.

THERE is some talk of the *Pall Mall* reducing its price to a penny; and we have reason to believe the proprietors of the *Times* are seriously debating the question of reducing the price of the "Thunderer."—*Printers' Register*.

THE HISTORY OF THE "DAILY NEWS."

(From the *English Independent*.)

THE *Daily News* first appeared on January 21, 1846, at the price of 5d.—a penny less than the regular price of the London morning papers in those days. It was set on foot by Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, who drew around them in the intellectual departments of their undertaking as brilliant a staff as probably ever was engaged on a single journal. Mr. Charles Dickens was appointed editor. Either at first, or during the subsequent career of the paper, it numbered among its regular contributors such men as Douglas Jerrold, Gilbert Abbot A'Beckett, W. J. Fox, Charles Mackay, Peter Cunningham, the Rev. F. Mahony, better known as Father Prout, and Mr. W. H. Wills, the well-known coadjutor of Mr. Dickens in his later weekly publications. Other departments were as notably filled; Mr. George Hogarth, for instance, being long the musical critic; while Mr. John Dickens, father of the novelist, was at the head of the reporters' staff. But the great novelist himself did not long find the editorial chair of a daily paper suited to him, and after about six months he resigned its duties, and was succeeded by the distinguished historian of the times of the Commonwealth, Mr. John Forster. This gentleman continued in office about two years, and was succeeded by Mr. Eyre Evans Crowe, the historian of France; Mr. Frederick Knight Hunt, author of the "History of the Fourth Estate," and Mr. William Weir, a member of the Scottish bar, who, though not known by any public work, possessed an ability coupled with erudition and energy which peculiarly adapted him to the work of the journalist, and whose death in 1858 drew forth a tribute of admiration and regret from nearly every important paper in London or the provinces. After this event, the editorial control passed into the hands of the gentleman who now holds it, and under whom it is enough to say it has lost none of the characteristics which its prior editors had stamped upon it. But while these changes were passing over the chief management, they were accompanied with others in the proprietorship and price. It is no secret that the attempt to establish at that time a daily paper, even at what we may consider the extravagant price of 5d., resulted in loss. So important, indeed, was the maintenance of the journal considered by the leaders of liberal thought, that at different periods Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Mr. Milner Gibson, Sir Joseph Paxton, and other leading men, became pecuniarily interested in the venture. Experiments were tried, too, at different prices. After its first six months it was reduced to half-size and half-price—i.e. twopence-halfpenny. In October of the same year it was raised to 3d. In February 1849, it was raised again to its original dimensions and price. Finally, in May, 1859, on the abolition of the stamp duty on newspapers, it was reduced to 3d. Of late years it is understood to have been fairly remunerative.

Correspondence.

PRESS PROSECUTIONS IN ENGLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—It appears to me that as, theoretically, the perfect freedom of the Press is more and more admitted, the law grows more sensitive in practice. Actions for libel against newspapers, on most paltry and frivolous grounds, are far more numerous now than in the days of Pitt or Castlereagh. How do you account for it?—Yours,

A RECENT VICTIM.

[Our correspondent loses sight of several circumstances. In the first place, newspapers are very far more numerous than "in the days of Pitt and Castlereagh." Secondly, he misses the distinction between prosecutions for political or seditious libel, and private libels. Taking year for year, with the exception of the necessity arising out of the late Fenian troubles, recent Governments have abstained from prosecution of the Press more even than those he cites. Until the cases which occurred last year, an interval of twenty years elapsed between Government prosecutions—a longer interval, we believe, than ever occurred in the history of the Press. Private actions are more frequent, simply, we opine, because newspapers are more numerous, and a wider scope

and latitude are taken for granted. It may be that there are more fraud and wrong doing that want exposing,—and the Press knows, and does its duty without regard to consequences.—Ed. N. P.]

NEWSPAPER MOTTOES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—Might not a collection of newspaper mottoes be interesting? I send a few from this part of the world by way of opening the ball:—

"Tros Tyriusve mihi nullo discrimine agetur."—*Belfast Commercial Chronicle*. 1840.

"Pro Rege scepe—pro patriâ semper."—*Northern Whig*. 1836.

"The public will our guide—the public good our end."—*Northern Star* (Belfast). 1794.

"Patria cara—carior veritas."—*Christian Patriot* (Belfast). 1833.

"Nemo me impune lacessit."—*Belfast Advertiser*. 1834.

"Pro Regina—rege et grege."—*Ballyshannon Herald*. 1839.

"Be just and fear not."—*Donegal Liberator*. 1839.

"Est modus in rebus snut certi denique finis,
Quos ultra citroque nequit consistere rectum."

Downpatrick Recorder. 1836.

"Medio tutissimus ibis."—*Downshire Chronicle*. 1839.

"Nullus addictus jurare in verba magestri."—*Newry Commercial Telegraph*. 1812.

"Party is the murder of the many for the gain of the few."—*Newry Examiner*. 1840.

"The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth."—*Impartial Reporter* (Enniskillen). 1825.

"Pro Rege, pro Patriâ, pro Aris et Focis."—*Enniskillener*. 1829.

"Palma non sine pulvere."—*Armagh Volunteer*. 1821.

"King and Constitution."—*Londonderry Journal*. 1773.

"Virtas nihil veritini nisi abscondi."—*Londonderry Sentinel*. 1829.

"Our Faith and our Firesides."—*Londonderry Standard*. 1836.

The dates affixed are those of the first or very early numbers of each paper in my collection.

Yours truly,

ULSTER.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—In my attorneys' bill just sent in the advertisement (of twenty-three lines) under the Act for Relief of Trustees is thus charged by the various *Gazette* and morning papers. The items may be curious enough for preservation in your columns.

	£	s.	d.
<i>London Gazette</i> , (2 insertions)	2	6	6
<i>Times</i>	4	0	0
<i>Daily News</i>	2	10	0
<i>Standard</i>	3	8	2
<i>Daily Telegraph</i>	3	12	2

Yours, &c.,

AN EXECUTOR.

THE *Hull Morning Times* has succumbed after an existence of two years.

THE Committee of the Association of Master Printers of London have decided that in payment for composition the *Draper and Clothier* is not a newspaper; and that the *St. Stephen's Chronicle* of Parliamentary Proceedings, is not a newspaper, but it is to be treated as a periodical magazine.

COPIES of the fourth edition of the *Evening Standard* of the 24th, containing telegrams of Mr. Gladstone's defeat in South Lancashire were sold for twopence and threepence in the City, and for sixpence at the railway stations.

"THE TABLET," Roman Catholic paper, long associated with the name of Mr. Lucas, has been purchased by Dr. Vaughan, and appears in a much improved form from its new office in Wellington-street.

THE *Birmingham Gridiron* has been run off the bars already, its fate being doubtless accelerated by that of its unfortunate publisher, Mr. Joseph Henry Seed, who in his capacity as partner in a carrying firm made use of sundry gold watches confided to his care in *transitu*, pawning them to raise the cash to set the *Gridiron* at work. At Quarter Sessions he was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment for his forgetfulness of the laws of *meum and tuum*.—*Printers' Journal*.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, November 26.

This city has been again the scene of great excitement, caused by the overstrained exertions of the Imperial Government to put down the liberty of the Press. It is a time-honoured custom in all Catholic countries on All Souls' Day to say mass for the repose of the souls of deceased friends and relatives, and decorate their tombs with flowers and wreaths; the day, which always falls on the 2nd of November, being kept as a day of mourning by the Church, whilst the Exchange and most shops are closed. The Parisians, who in most cases are so impetuous and easily swayed by a few superior spirits, were this year induced to visit *en masse* the cemetery of Montmartre, one of the northern suburbs, there to lay their offerings of wreaths on the tomb of a certain Baudin, a member of the Legislative Body, who was killed in the barricades whilst resisting the *coup d'état* which raised Louis Napoleon to the throne. There was at first some difficulty in finding the grave, but by reference to the registers it was at length discovered, and some speeches appreciating his merits as a patriot and a martyr to the cause were made. The neglected state of the grave suggested the propriety of erecting a monument to his memory, and the proposal was so warmly seconded that it amounted almost to a demonstration. The next day the affair was taken up by the Press, and several journals called on the public to contribute to the expenses of the monument, promising to publish the names of the subscribers, which they did for several days, the amounts ranging between 5*fr.* and 20*fr.*, with a few contributions of 50*fr.*, and one (the *Journal de Paris*) of 100*fr.* The Government considered this publication of the lists as illegal, and determined to put a stop to it. Some of the journals were seized, and legal proceedings commenced against them, on the inevitable charge of "inciting to hatred and contempt of the Government." In the meantime the subject was taken up by some of the larger daily papers, such as the *Siècle* and the *Temps*, who also published their list of subscribers, and the movement extended very generally to the provincial Press, and assumed such gigantic proportions as to make it impossible to prosecute them all. The papers seized were the *Reveil*, the *Avenir National*, the *Tribune*, the *Revue Politique*, and *La Discussion*; whilst those which also publish their lists of contributors and have not been seized are the *Siècle*, the *Temps*, the *Journal de Paris*, and in the country the *Gironde* (of Bordeaux), the *Phare de la Loire* (of Nantes), the *Emancipation* (of Toulouse), the *Suffrage Universel* (of Caen), the *Democrate de Vaucluse* (of Avignon), the *Peuple* (of Marseilles), the *Ordre* (of Arras), the *Courrier du Bas Rhin* (of Strasbourg), the *Progrès du Nord* (of Lille), and the *Liberal* (of Bayonne); to which may be added the following, which have since opened their columns for subscription lists:—The *Progrès* (of Lyons), the *Independent de la Moselle* (of Metz), the *Union Libérale* (of Tours), the *Courrier de la Rochelle* (of Rochelle), the *Independent du Tarn* (of Albi), and the *Contribuable* (of Frankfurt). The *Emancipation* of Toulouse is the only provincial paper that has yet been prosecuted for "offending the Emperor," and of course convicted, M. Louis Artiste, who wrote the incriminating article calling for contributions, being fined 100*fr.*; M. Ad. Duportal, the chief editor, 50*fr.*; and Paul Savy, the printer, 25*fr.*

But here at Paris the prosecutions were conducted on a more extensive scale, no less than nine gentlemen being tried in one batch before the Sixth Chamber of the Court of Correctional Police at Paris on the 12th and 13th inst. (for the trial lasted two whole days). The accused were M. Alphonse Peyrat, chief editor of the *Avenir National*; Charles Delescluze, chief editor of the *Reveil*; Louis Quentin, described as an *homme de lettres*, but really on the editorial staff of the last-named journal; Paul Challemeil-Lacour, chief editor of the *Revue Politique*; Theodore Duret, chief editor of the *Tribune*—these five for manœuvres and inciting to, &c. (the stereotype formula)—then M. Gaillard, sen., employed on the *Avenir National*; M. Caulin, a contributor to the *Reveil*; M. Abel Peyrouton, Professor of the University; and Gaillard, jun., of no profession—these four charged with having

made seditious speeches on All Souls' Day in the cemetery of Montmartre. At a previous meeting of the members of the *parquet*, most of the eminent lawyers discussed the legality of the proceedings, and agreed that the Government had no right to prosecute. To give more force to their convictions they each subscribed 20*fr.*, and their names appeared the next day in the list of contributors. It was, therefore, quite in accordance with their principles that many of them devoted their best energies and eloquence to the defence of the accused. Thus Quentin was defended by M. Crimeux, and Peyrat by Emanuel Arago; but their eloquence was all thrown away, as the case was pre-judged, and orders had been given to the Court to find the defendants guilty. They were all convicted and sentenced to different degrees of punishment—Delescluze to six months' imprisonment, deprivation of his civil rights for that period, and payment of a fine of 2,000*fr.*; Quentin, Challemeil-Lacour, and Duret (the latter in *contumaciam*) to a fine of 2,000*fr.* each; Gaillard, sen., to a fine of 500*fr.*; Gaillard, jun., and Peyrouton to a month's imprisonment, and a fine of 150*fr.* each. The sentence of the Court further ordered the suppression and destruction of the journals seized.

The Government had hoped by this oppressive conduct to intimidate the Press, and effectually to put down and crush the agitation; but the effect has been just the reverse, and it is impossible to shut one's eyes to the palpable fact that the Emperor is so infatuated on the subject as to be rushing wildly on his fate. It was a personal crotchet of his to suppress *vi et armis* the proposed demonstration—for but very few of the contributors to the monument fund had ever before heard of Baudin, and fewer still cared for his memory—with what result we have just seen; and as the agitation is still going on and extending to the furthest corners of the empire, the Emperor, with a pertinacity worthy of a better cause, has given orders to have the same game played over again; for, not content with the seizure of these journals that still continue to publish the names of contributors to the Baudin fund, several are to be prosecuted, amongst them the *Temps*, the *Journal de Paris*, the *Tribune*, and the *Avenir National*—the three last for the second time.

By the death of M. Havin, political director of the *Siècle*, the Press of this city loses one of its brightest ornaments, as the deceased was a man of good education, and was very popular, enjoying the reputation of being one of the most elegant writers of the day. On the 15th inst. a meeting of the Paris journalists was held, when it was agreed to send a deputation of their number to attend, as a mark of respect, the funeral, which was held the following day at Thorigny, near Saint Lo, in the department of La Manche. The deputation consisted of M. Baudrillart, chief editor of the *Constitutionnel*, M. Emile de Girardin, chief editor of *La Liberté*, and M. Guérout, chief editor of the *Opinion Nationale*. The appointment has not yet been filled up; there are a good many candidates in the field, but M. Durier is said to have the best chance of success.

M. Dréole is not appointed to one of the vacant prefectures after all, but is about to start a new political journal called *Le Public*, edited strictly in accordance with the views of the Minister of State, M. Rouher, and with capital advanced by that statesman. The price is to be only two sous per copy, and it may be expected that, with the great mass of semi-official information at its command, the paper will make a successful *début*, and soon attract the attention of other countries.

A report has been circulated that the directors of the Paris and provincial daily journals have agreed to send in a protest against the illegally exceptional position of the two *Moniteurs*. The report is now confirmed by the *Liberté* and the *Opinion Nationale*. They demand that the two official organs, now exempted from the stamp duty and postage, against the express stipulations of the Press law and the constitution, be placed on the same footing as the rest of the Press, or else be limited to the publication of the Government official advertisements. Most probably this protest will take the form of a collective petition to the Senate.

In the meantime M. Clement Duvernois, late chief editor of the *Epoque*, has been engaged in the same capacity by M. Dalloz, to conduct the non-official *Moniteur*, which ceases to be the Government organ at the end of this year, but will continue to bear the name of *Moniteur Universel*, though obliged to give up the proud

title of "*Journal Officiel*," which will be suppressed. The Government has offered M. Dalloz the sum of 200,000f. to withdraw his prosecution and claim to the name of the *Moniteur Universel*, but the tempting offer has been refused, and on New Year's Day we shall have two *Moniteurs*, for the following decree, signed by the Minister of State, M. Rouher, has been published in the *Constitutionnel*:—Art. 1. The two official journals of the Government will appear on and after the 1st of January, 1869, under the following titles: '*Moniteur officiel de l'Empire Français, édition du matin*,' and '*Moniteur officiel de l'Empire Français, édition du soir*;' each will bear the impress of the arms of the French Empire. Art. 2. This decree is to be officially notified to M. Wittersheim, the contracting publisher." AVANT-COURIER.

PARIS, NOV. 27, 1868.

Your regular correspondent in this city will doubtless furnish you with a full account of the late Press prosecutions. They have now been extended into the provinces, but not with equal glory (!) to the Government. True, M. Gayot, editor of the *Indépendant au Midi*, was sentenced by the Correctional Court of Nîmes to a fine of a thousand francs; but another *Indépendant*—the *L'Indépendant au Centre*, was acquitted by the Correctional Court of Clamont.

Among recent novelties is an independent paper called *Le Français*. A new daily paper is projected here, to be placed under the management of Mr. de la Ponterie, formerly connected with *La France*, and now with *La Presse*. Havre is also to have a new daily paper of Liberal principles.

A fracas has occurred between two journalists—MM. Aurelian Schell, of the *Figaro*, and de Heckeren, at the Café Bignon. After a few angry words, a fierce encounter with fists and sticks ensued, but they were separated by the waiters. A challenge from M. de Heckeren was accepted by M. Schell, and the former has been since summoned before the police.

You will hear with pain of the starting of a new and avowed infidel paper, taking for its model of inspiration the infamous Chaumette of the Old Revolution, the man who boasted his intention of destroying all forms of religion. It is to be called *Le Barbara*, and is to be brought out at the price of two sous. The following is an extract from the prospectus: "While our friends (those of another journal of the same description, *La Pensée Nouvelle*), will seek out in science the cause of the repugnance of men to the supernatural, we shall investigate history in order to show the effects of faith. We shall show, for instance, the French Revolution developing itself with Atheism; we shall show it reaching its apogee with the commune of Paris; with the anti-religious addresses of Chaumette; with the intelligent and profound Hebert. We shall show how the fanatics of the Supreme Being prepared and accomplished the work of reaction—of that reaction which was ever conspiring in the Convention, and which passing to Robespierre, by means of the 9th Thermidor and the Consulat, found its issue in the Concordat. As the declared enemy of Escobars and Tartufes, the *Barbara* will pursue its task, without ceasing, of tearing their masks from them, and exposing to the public their traitorous features." It is to be hoped that a government only too vigilant over the Press on other scores will keep its eye on *Le Barbara*.

PRO RE NATÀ.

Some newspaper agents who bought upwards of 2,000 numbers of the *Lanterne*, No. 11, to send into the country, brought an action against M. Henri Rochefort, and M. Dumont, his publisher, to recover 691fr. 55c., being the cost of those numbers and the postage paid upon them. It appeared that these papers were seized during their passage through the post office. The plaintiffs grounded their suit upon articles 1,641, 1,643, and 1,645 of the Code Napoleon, which declare a vendor responsible for a "concealed vice" in the thing sold. The libellous matter in the *Lanterne*, for which it was seized in the post-office, was, they contended, a concealed defect, and the vendors, and not the purchasers, ought to support the consequences of the seizure. But the Tribunal of Commerce dismissed the case with costs, on the ground that the plaintiffs, before they purchased the number of the *Lanterne* in question, must have been acquainted with the tenor of it, and aware that they posted it at their own risk and peril, and therefore not the articles of the code on which they relied, but

article 1,642 was applicable—an article which lays down that "a vendor is not responsible for patent defects which the purchaser may detect himself with common diligence."

The success of *La Lanterne* has produced an imitation, *La Diable à Quatre*, whose title has a meaning. The editors, belonging to the staff of *Le Figaro*, are to be four in number, and every one of the articles, which are to be extremely short, after the manner of *Les Guêpes*, is to be signed with the name of a devil. Nevertheless, the work is only partially anonymous, for, though the authorship of each particular article will remain concealed, the cover will bear the names of the four writers—Hector De Ville-messant (chief editor of *Le Figaro*), Alphonse Duchesne, Jules Claretie, and "Mephistophéles." The hands of the three first of these will, it is said, be easily recognised, but the fourth is to be beyond the power of human research. Possibly the subtle fiend is only a Mrs. Harris, established to serve as a scapegoat for his more visible associates.

The *Gaulois* writes as follows of the Havas agency:—"All the political papers subscribe to the Havas agency for a sheet of telegraphic despatches furnished to the latter by its correspondents, and sent to its subscribers in three separate editions daily, thus saving the different newspapers a very costly and troublesome branch of organisation.

"But this is by no means an unumixed advantage. The despatches which reach the Havas agency are submitted to the Minister of the Interior, and it frequently happens that when they are returned for distribution to the papers, there remain but a few useless fragments. Whatever might be prejudicial in an 'undressed' condition is trimmed, modified, or retrenched, until the Government think it fit to publish. We, therefore, mere private journalists, who have thought proper to rely on our own resources in preference to the Havas apparatus, receive private despatches which we can publish twenty-four or even forty-eight hours before other papers. And thus we have been enabled to keep the lead in priority of intelligence from the other side of the Pyrenees—intelligence confirmed later on by our contemporaries.

"The Havas agency, which receives its despatches from foreign governments, and submits them to the French, has sometimes thought it expedient to contradict our affirmations, though invariably compelled, in the long run, to acknowledge their truth. We make no particular complaint of this. . . . But our readers ought to know that the Havas agency have never concealed the source of their information, or the fact of their being controlled."

Paris journalists do not improve in courtesy towards each other. The editor of a weekly pamphlet called *La Cloche*, founded in imitation of the *Lanterne*, lately insinuated that the *Pays*, which has been newly organised, is kept up out of the secret service money:—"The money which does not come out of the public treasury can only come out of the secret funds. Now, I am astonished that there are journalists so devoted as to proclaim their dependence." Thereupon the editor of the *Pays* replies:—"There are people with whom nobody discusses, but who are merely chastised. Ferragus, the editor of the *Cloche*, is of the number. This man, whom we all know, who exhibits himself comfortably in his *fauteuil* on the first representation of pieces in the theatres, is one of the most repugnant members of the Press. He exhibits in his greasy person at once the wretched undertaker's man, the wretched doctor, the wretched advocate, the wretched Jesuit. This periodical and weekly abscess comes out every Saturday in the *Cloche*; and, what is unheard of for an abscess, though pierced, remains not the less swollen and tumefied. He wished to take the place of Rochefort. But those who employ a lantern and a crook at night, and creep along the walls, are not Rocheforts. He carries on opposition as another sells groceries, because it is profitable, but without conviction, ardour, or enthusiasm. It is all a matter of traffic; so much the heap, and thirteen make the dozen! It is a mere mercantile opposition—a retail trade—an opposition that makes money, and speculates on 'liberty, equality, and fraternity'; an opposition which defiles the temple. Away, away, or beware of the lash! The actor Garrick said one day to a comedian of enormous bulk—more enormous even than the body of Ferragus—'You are so fat that nobody can beat you in one day.' *Au revoir*; we shall return to you." Ferragus (which is merely the *nom de plume* of the editor of the *Cloche*) will probably retort on M. de Cassagnal in his next num-

ber. Such are the amenities of Parisian journalism in 1868.—*Times'* Correspondence.

POSTSCRIPT.

PARIS, NOV. 28.

The editor of the *Progrès du Nord*, of Lille, was sentenced yesterday to a fine of 500 fr., and one month's imprisonment, and M. Castres, editor of the *Indépendant du Tarn*, was acquitted. The charge against them was taking part in the Baudin subscriptions.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, NOV. 27.

Now that the Prussian Parliament has re-assembled, it is expected that something will be done for the relief of the Press. At all events, the subject cannot fail to be brought under their notice in a prominent manner, for several petitions have been received by the House of Representatives from different parts of the kingdom. One of these, signed by the newspaper publishers and printers at Berlin, prays for the abolition of the stamp-tax on newspapers, the repeal of the present system of forced deposits of caution-money on the part of the proprietors of newspapers and periodicals, and a liberal alteration of paragraph 54 of the Press law, inflicting on printers and publishers the loss of their trade concessions as the consequence of any infringement of the Press law. Another is from the bookseller and printer, C. Jancke, in Colberg, and signed by 132 other Prussian publishers and printers, praying for the repeal of the Prussian Press law of May 12, 1851, which has been modified to some extent by the provisional law respecting trades lately passed by the Chambers; and secondly, asking for the abolition of the newspaper stamp law of June 29, 1861. And, lastly, I may mention a petition presented to the Lower House by Herr Ebert, one of its members, from a large number of editors, publishers of newspapers, and proprietors of printing establishments, for trial by jury of all Press offences. It is true that there is an alarming deficit in the exchequer this year, and that the Finance Minister is at his wits' end to find the ways and means to fill up the gap—which amounts to more than six millions of dollars—so that it is not to be expected he will be very ready to comply with the request of the petitioners unless some gentle pressure be put on him; but as he is a statesman of liberal principles, and entertains great respect for public opinion, and as, moreover, the amount involved is but comparatively insignificant, it is not impossible that he may be induced to give way if public opinion is expressed with a sufficient degree of energy and determination.

A change of some importance is about to be made in the Press of this city by the sale of the *Hamburg Correspondent* and the *Hamburg Börsenhalle* to a new company called the "New Börsenhalle," lately formed with a capital of a quarter of a million marks banco, in 250 shares of 1,000 marks banco each. The two papers thus united under one management will continue to appear outwardly as separate journals, the first named retaining a morning paper and the latter an evening one, the great alteration lying in the distribution of their contents; the *Correspondent* will continue to be the official organ of the Senate, and be exclusively devoted to politics, whilst the *Börsenhalle* will contain all the intelligence about shipping, commerce, finance, and industrial undertakings in all parts of the world. Both papers will contain advertisements, and the transfer will be made on the last day of the year, so that on New Year's day they will appear as morning and evening editions. The new company have further become the lessees of the Exchange Subscription Rooms, where are posted the telegrams as soon as they arrive, and where the reading rooms contain a library and collection of newspapers in all languages and from all parts of the world second to none in Europe or any other place.

The Criminal Court at Berlin was occupied last Saturday, Count Bredow being the presiding judge, with the trial of Dr. Guido Weiss, editor of the *Zukunft*, for an offence against the Press law. The deliberations of the Court lasted three hours, when they acquitted the defendant of an infraction of section 87 of the penal code, but convicted him of an attack on the public institutions of the country and insulting the Ministers, for which he is condemned to a fortnight's imprisonment. The incriminating article was a comment on the text lately enunciated by Count Bismark, "We are far too liberal towards the south of

Germany." It is remarkable that the State prosecutor only demanded a fine, but the Court decided for imprisonment because there were no extenuating circumstances, and the publication of the article showed great want of tact and patriotism. In the same sitting the prosecution of Dr. Lowe-Calbe, editor of the democratic *Volks-Zeitung*, was appointed to come on, but it was postponed on account of the lateness of the hour.

Dr. B. Endrulat, who lately undertook the editorship of the *Itzehoe Nachrichten*, has already got into trouble for reproducing an article from the *Kieler Zeitung*, which caused the latter to be seized. He was condemned in the first instance to a month's imprisonment and costs, but on his appeal the Court found extenuating circumstances, and reduced the punishment to a fine of 30 dollars, but with payment of costs.

Amongst the new journals launched this month are the *Altona Zeitung*, organ for social and political progress, published three times a week by G. Esch at Altona, the editor being Dr. Belitz; the *Norddeutsches Wochenblatt*, a political and social weekly, edited by Carl Wartenberg, and published at Gera; and the *Blätter für bildende Kunst*, edited by C. Schönan, Director of the Prussian Art Union at Berlin.

Dr. Vollert, editor of the *Neuer Pitaval*, is appointed one of the judges of the newly organised Court of Appeal for the States of Saxe-Weimar, Coburg-Gotha, Reuss, and Schwartzburg conjointly.

The *Social Democrat*, notorious for its many prosecutions by the police, seems notwithstanding to get on very well, as its lately increased size shows. A new comic publication, the *Keiltreiber* (Shooting-stick), is to be published fortnightly at Vienna, whose scope will be to expose those evils in the printing trade which cannot appear in a mere trade paper.

The last number of the *Journal für Buchdruckerkunst* contains the text of a petition for the abolition of the existing restrictions on the Press, and also of the duty on newspapers (Stempelsteuer), presented to the Prussian Chamber of Deputies. I can only wish for it all possible success, even at the risk of not being able, as heretofore, to give you now and then a report of prosecutions in this Elysium of paternal supervision of the Press—which report this week is rather lengthy.

The editor of the *Flensburger Anzeiger*, having offended a soldier with respect to his profession, has had to suffer one week's imprisonment for his "crime." The editor of the *Frankfurter Beobachter* insulted the *chef* of the police there, and the consequence was ten days' imprisonment. There is at present an abundance of Press processes in Prague. Two papers were lately suppressed; four editors were sentenced for disturbing public tranquillity, to one year's imprisonment and a fine of 1,200 florins, five months' and 1,500 florins, six months' and 1,000 florins, and three months' and 300 florins, respectively. Another was sentenced to five years' imprisonment for high treason. I mentioned in one of my last letters the Press process against the *Politick*, of Prague. The "printer" (*metteur-en-pages*) of the paper was acquitted, but the public prosecutor appealed against the decision of the lower Court. The highest tribunal in the land has now decided that the printer is not supposed to read all the articles he receives for insertion from the editor; consequently he cannot be held answerable for anything contained in them that may be contrary to the law of the Press. The editor of the *Frankfurter Zeitung* was acquitted on appeal in a prosecution for scan. mag. The last number of the *Kladderadatch* (the Berlin *Punch*) was seized for a cartoon on the deficit in the national accounts.

A civil action was brought by Josef von Brasseur, an Austrian nobleman, an officer in an hussar regiment, against Mr. Zimmermann, the former sub-editor of the *Grazer Tagesspost* (now publisher of the *Freiheit*), and Dr. Swoboda, the editor of the same. The conduct of the plaintiff, who had been the cause of suicide of a young girl in Vienna, had been sharply criticised by Mr. Zimmermann, in consequence of which he felt himself in duty bound to defend his honour. The action afforded an interesting insight into the relation of certain cavaliers to the *demi-monde*. The sub-editor had to pay 60 florins damage, for libel; the editor 10 florins for "neglecting proper surveillance." Besides this, the publisher was mulcted of 60 florins of his caution money.—*Correspondent of the Printers' Journal*.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, Nov. 25.

From official statistics given in the *Austria*, the newspaper stamp tax received in 1867 amounted to 578,121 florins against 569,650fl. in 1866, showing a trifling excess of 8,471fl. in favour of last year. The largest sum (404,056fl.) was raised in this province of Lower Austria, the next largest was 81,961fl. in Bohemia, and the smallest, 78fl. in Bukovina. These tables include only the German or Western division of the empire, and not Hungary, &c.

The Central Tribunal of Justice has pronounced judgment in the Press prosecution of the *Vaterland*. Dr. Bernhard von Floren-court, lay priest and collaborator of the journal, is convicted of instigating to rebellion, and condemned to one month's imprisonment; and Dr. Franz Zistler, the responsible editor, to a fine of 20fl., and loss of 120fl. caution money for neglect of his official duties. The defendants both gave notice of appeal.

The two first numbers of a new Slavonian journal published here, and called the *Zvon*, were immediately seized by the police; and the first number of the new paper, *Il Camaleonte*, published at Trieste, in the Italian language, suffered the same fate; whilst legal proceedings have been commenced against another Italian journal of that city, the *Berlina*, for insulting the clergy.

A new class paper has just appeared here, called the *Wiener Versicherungs Zeitung*, which promises to be a useful journal, being devoted to the subject of insurance, and edited by Dr. Moritz Herzog.

When Alexander von Humboldt died, the *Paris Siècle* had the misfortune to confound him with his brother Wilhelm, who had been dead for five and twenty years, and devoted two columns of the paper to his biography. A similar case of ignorance has just been exhibited by the *Neue Freie Presse* of this city in confounding the lately deceased landscape painter, Edward Hildebrandt, of Berlin, with his namesake Theodore, the historical painter at Düsseldorf.

From Pesth we learn that a difference of opinion on political subjects has led to a duel between two editors of rival journals in that city (Messrs. Aldor and Asboth), the latter being severely wounded, and carried home in an unconscious state.

Henrich Daube, the theatrical reviewer of the *Neue Freie Presse*, and formerly director of the "Burg-Theater," has taken leave of his readers, and is gone to live at Leipzig, where he has accepted a literary engagement. TEUTON.

HOLLAND.

A Bill has been laid on the table of the Dutch Legislature for abolishing, after the 1st of May, 1869, the now existing heavy tax on newspapers and advertisements. The law of 1843, which still oppresses Dutch journalism, is simply intolerable.

BAVARIA.

A new journal is to appear with the new year at Munich, under the title of the *Bayerische Landeszeitung*, as the organ of the so-called liberal middle party, which is willing to respect the treaties entered into with Prussia, but also anxious to preserve the independence of Bavaria. The paper will be published by the Court printer Wolf, and edited by Dr. Pöhlmann, at present on the editorial staff of the *Süddeutsche Presse*, which, as already stated, ceases with the end of this year to be the official organ of the Bavarian Government.

RUSSIA.

Some important changes are about to take place in the Russian Press. The *Russian Invalide*, hitherto and for many years the official organ of the Minister for War, is to be discontinued at the end of this year, as well as three other official journals. The semi-official *Katkov Journal* loses its privileges, and the *Journal de St. Petersburg* (published in French) will cease to be the recognized organ of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. On the other hand, by special orders from the Autocrat, a new official journal, to be called the *Government Moniteur*, or more literally, *Advertiser* (the Russian title is *Pravitelstvennyi Wjstnik*), is to start into existence on New Year's-day (the 13th of January, new style), and will be the sole official organ of all the different ministerial departments conjointly. It is to appear every day, except

on the morrow of Sundays and church holidays. The subscription price for the interior is comparatively very low, being fixed at 12 roubles per annum for any part of the Russian empire; whilst for foreign countries it is unproportionately high, being 24 roubles for the States of Germany, 35 roubles for Denmark and France, 45 roubles for Switzerland, and 52 roubles for Italy.

The following is the notice which appeared in the *Journal de St. Petersburg* of October 30 (Nov. 11), announcing it: "On the 27th of October last His Majesty the Emperor, deeming it convenient to confide to one official gazette for all the various administrations and departments, the publication of the measures, notices, and explanations of the Government, has deigned to order that from the beginning of 1869 there shall be published by the General Director of Press Affairs one sole journal, common to all departments, which shall bear the title of "*Messenger du Gouvernement*." In pursuance of this measure, all the journals now serving as official organs to certain administrations and departments will lose all official character, and will thenceforth be subject to the general laws of the censorship."

An association is being formed at St. Petersburg, for the purpose of continuing the publication of the *Russian Invalide*, as a private undertaking, provided they can obtain the needful concession from the Government. It is further stated that M. Startchewsky, formerly editor of the *Son of the Fatherland*, has received permission to publish again the *Northern Bee*.

A German publisher and printer at Wilna lately sent in to the Russian Government a petition, praying for a concession to establish a local weekly journal in the German language, containing only commercial and agricultural intelligence, with a translation of such Government announcements as might be of importance and interest for the numerous Germans living there, but few of whom are able to read the Russian papers. A few days ago, the petitioner received back his prospectus, with the remark that the Government could not permit the publication of any newspaper except in the Russian language, as it would tend to frustrate the principle now in force, of obliging the non-Russians living in Lithuania to learn the language of the country in which they reside.

Specimen copies of a new journal in the Lettish language, called the *Baltic Messenger*, have been distributed at Riga. It is edited by a native Lette, the Aulic Councillor Djhrck. The Russian democratic Press had welcomed its appearance in anticipation of partaking its political views; but this is not the case—at least, it exhibits no feelings of animosity towards the German population, and has therefore been greeted with expressions of kindness by the local German Press at Riga.

The newspaper *Moskova*, organ of the Panslavist party, has been suspended for six months, after having received a third warning for circulating reports calculated to create enmity among the population, and embitter the latter against the Government.

DENMARK.

The Danish Press has again to mourn the loss of another of its most powerful writers by the death of Bernhard Philip Rée, who died last week at Copenhagen of inflammation of the lungs, aged fifty-five. He was for many years editor of the *Aalborg Stiftstidende*, a well conducted daily paper, published at Aalborg, in Jutland; ever since 1847 he was Member of the Legislative Assembly, and, subsequently, of the First Chamber of the Danish Parliament, till a mental disease obliged him to give up his appointment both as legislator and journalist.

SPAIN.

From statistics published by the Director of the Taxes, we learn that during the month of October seventeen new journals were launched, but that, on the other hand, eighteen were discontinued. The most widely-extended journal is *El Puente de Alcolea*, and of all the political and non-political journals, including the *Gaceta de Madrid*—which, though the official organ of the Government, strange to say, is counted among the latter—the one that has the greatest circulation is the *Correspondencia de Espana*. The total receipts from the newspaper stamp tax, from the beginning of this year to the end of October, amounted only to 26,600 escudos, or dollars, and, as the sum is so insignificant, it is to be hoped the tax will be totally repealed in a very short time.

A sheet, purporting to be a supplement to the *Iberia*, was lately circulated at Madrid, advocating the expediency of putting Espartero in nomination for the vacant throne. The next day, the *Iberia* stated that the sheet was not printed at their offices, disclaimed all knowledge of the transaction, and announced its intention of observing the strictest silence on the subject till the question was finally settled.

Another new journal has just appeared at Madrid, under the title of *La Revolucion*; it is chiefly worthy of notice from being described as a "Protestant newspaper."

Don Manuel del Palacio, a popular writer and liberal journalist, is appointed Secretary to the Spanish Legation at Florence.

Ex-Queen Isabella has determined to start a paper, on which she is prepared to spend 8,000*l.*, the object of which will be to combat the candidature of Don Carlos, as well as of the Duke of Montpensier, and criticise the acts of the Provisional Government. This new journal is to be managed by M. Hugelmann, the author of the pamphlet, "General Prim and the Prince of the Asturias."

GREECE.

"Ο Κόρυς Λευκής—the French write his name "Levidis"—the Nestor of the modern Greek Press, has lately died at Athens. He was a well-meaning patriot, and resisted to the utmost the Bavarian rule, first under the regency of Count Armandsparg and subsequently under King Otho. He founded at an early period the *Αίφν*, which he edited with great ability till his death. By his powerful writing in that journal he mainly contributed to bring to a head the revolution which caused the flight of King Otho, and paved the way for the election and accession of his present Majesty King Georgios.

ITALY.

The *Ficannaso*, a Turin journal, has been seized for publishing articles disrespectful of the King.

UNITED STATES.

New York, November 15th.

A new representative of the French residents in the States has appeared lately. It is entitled, *Le Nouveau Monde; Journal Politique, Littéraire et Agricola*, and is very creditably got up. It contains a summary of European news, paying, of course, particular attention to French items, and of the public matters of America, and is issued weekly.

The *Baltimore Leader*, a journal of talent, has changed its name to the *Statesman*. It is of the size and somewhat of the appearance of the *Round Table*; and enters upon political discussion as well as literary and social subjects, with an ability that is commanding attention and respect.

Among the newspaper gossip of the *Advertisers' Gazette*, I find it is stated that Mr. James Gordon Bennett, of the *New York Herald*, is reckoned to be worth three millions of dollars; that Bonner pays ten dollars for each of the usual *Ledger* poems; and that the *Atta-California* made eighteen thousand dollars last year. This kind of news which has a relish to some minds, comes appropriately under the head of "Personal."

A mob destroyed the office and plant of the *Attakapas Register*, a paper published at Franklin, Louisiana, on the 18th October.

The editor of the *Advertisers' Gazette* complains that you have in a recent number quoted his list of new newspapers, and given credit for it to the *Advent Herald*; but I think on reference he will find he is wrong. The words *Advent Herald* clearly refer only to the paragraph immediately preceding them. SOL.

Some little time ago Mr. Horace Greeley contributed to a weekly journal an account of the foundation of the *New York Tribune*, in 1841. His entire capital was 2,000 *dols.*, of which half was in printing *matériel*. His chief assistant was Mr. H. J. Raymond, now editor of the *New York Times*, to whom he gave 8 *dols.* a week. Of him Mr. Greeley says:—"Ablar and stronger men I may have met; a cleverer, readier, more generally efficient journalist I never saw." In 1866 the receipts of the paper were over 900,000 *dols.* The article closes with the following sentiment:—"Fame is a vapour, popularity an accident, riches take wings, the only earthly certainty is oblivion—no man can see what a day may bring forth; and those who cheer to-day will often curse to-morrow; and yet I cherish the hope that the journal I projected and

established will live and flourish long after I shall have mouldered into forgotten dust, being guided by a larger wisdom, a more unerring sagacity to discern the right, though not by a more unflinching readiness to embrace and defend it at whatever personal cost; and that the stone which covers my ashes may bear to future eyes the same intelligible inscription, 'Founder of the *New York Tribune*.'"

Messrs. French and Wheat, of Park Row, announce the *Illuminated Western World*, to treat of social subjects, sketches of persons and places, notes of adventure and travel, &c., &c.

Mr. Carleton announces a life of Mr. Pomeroy, of the *La Crosse Democrat*.

Captain Mayne Reid is to edit, and Mr. Carlton is to publish, a new magazine "for the youths of America," beginning with January 1.

Greensboro (N.C.) has a weekly paper, the *Patriot*, and a religious publication, which is owned and edited by a lady, the contributors being females, and the pressman a stout coloured woman.

The following cuttings are from the *Advertisers' Gazette*:—

"A NEWSPAPER ESTABLISHMENT FOR FIVE DOLLARS.—The *Marshall Republican* and *Jefferson Times* are two of the leading papers of North-eastern Texas, yet there is a chance offered now of securing either establishment for 5 *dols.* They are both the property of the veteran Loughery, who, finding their joint care too much for him, proposes to put them up at lottery, allowing the winner of the prize ticket to take his choice of either. Besides the name and good will of the journal, the winner will be entitled also to the building in which it is published, a stock of paper, job and newspaper presses, large and complete set of type, and all other furniture appertaining to newspaper and job office. The chances number 5,000 at 5 *dols.*

"THE OLDEST RELIGIOUS PAPER.—It has been frequently asserted that the *Boston Recorder* is the oldest religious paper in the world. Such is not the fact. The first religious paper was published by the Rev. Elias Smith, of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The first number was issued in 1808, under the auspices of the sect called Christians. It has been published regularly from that time to the present. Complete files of the paper are preserved. I have often heard Rev. Elias Smith give an account of the early trials and discouragement that attended that paper. It was considered almost sacrilegious to issue a religious print. The preachers regarded the project with disfavour. But the editor saw no reason why the Church should not have an organ, as well as trade and politicians. Amid poverty and great opposition the religious Press was launched, and has been a success from that hour.

"WHAT A STEAM-ENGINE IN NEW YORK DOES.—The *Mail* has discovered an engine in Spruce Street which furnishes the motive-power to over one hundred and twenty-five different printing presses. Shafting and belting distribute the power in every direction, the main shaft being three-fourths of a mile in length, and the connecting shafts over a mile. A rubber belt, one hundred and twenty feet long, connects a fifth story press on Nassau Street, with main shafting on Spruce. The engine prints McLaughlin's toy books, runs the immense establishments of Bradstreet and J. W. Oliver, besides many other job printers, a hoop skirt manufactory, and several binderies, and prints nearly fifty papers, besides magazines and books innumerable, among the *Mail*, the *Independent*, *Dispatch*, *Leader*, *Star*, *Examiner* and *Chronicle*, *Observer*, *Courier*, *Clipper*, *Wilke's Spirit*, *Turf*, *Field* and *Farm*, *Police Gazette*, *La Crosse Democrat*, *Ledger*, *New York Weekly*, *Literary Album*, *New Yorker Democrat*, *Sunday Times*, *Commonwealth*, *Scottish American*, *Freeman's Journal*, *Emerald*, *Tablet*, *Irish American*, *Irish People*, &c., &c."

The following extracts are from the *Round Table*:—

"Mr. Fuller, of the *Cosmopolitan*, has, we are glad to see, emerged from durance vile. We never believed in applying coercion of this sort to editors—with the solitary exception of George Francis Train, who, we think, occupies such a position "on" the *Revolution*.

"In France all caricatures and other engravings intended for the public journals must be submitted to the authorities for inspection before publication. It would be an abridgment of the liberty of the Press, but even with this disadvantage it would surely be a great social blessing if a similar rule could be established in New York.

"We observe that the new halfpenny evening paper called the *Mercury*, lately started in London, has stopped. It seems the price was too low. A penny for London and two cents for New York seems to be the cheapest figure at which a paper will pay. The tendency here is decidedly toward cheapness in evening papers, and with the fall of gold we imagine our high-priced journals will have to lower their rates. At present new and inexpensive rivals, such as the *Mail* and *Telegram*, are taking a good deal of the wind out of their sails."

AUSTRALIA.

(Our Sydney letter had not arrived at the time of our going to press.)

SECOND ASSAULT UPON THE EDITOR OF THE "WAGGA WAGGA EXPRESS."—In our issue of Saturday (observes the above journal of the 1st August) we published an account of an aggravated assault, which had been committed on the editor of this journal, in his bed, on the previous Sunday morning, by Mr. F. A. Tompson, a magistrate of the territory, in consequence of some remarks which had appeared in our columns, in connection with the appointment of that person to the chair at the *dejeuner* recently given to his Excellency the Earl of Belmore, in this town. As the subject will be fully investigated at a legal tribunal, we do no more than give a brief outline of the facts. For a similar reason we shall pursue the same course in reference to a second case of assault, to which we are about to allude. On Saturday morning, soon after the issue of the *Express*, containing the paragraph we have referred to above, and also a leader treating on the causes of recent divisions in the town, Mr. Arthur Tompson, a son of the magisterial breaker of the peace of the preceding week, suddenly walked into the printing office, where the editor happened to be alone, and, after excitedly asking why his father had been again insulted, proceeded to draw a whip which he had concealed in his coat. The Editor, Mr. Hawkins, seeing that an assault was intended, rushed at and seized the whip, and succeeded in obtaining possession of it before it could be used, but during the struggle received a blow from the clenched fist of his opponent in the face. A scuffle of some duration ensued, Mr. Tompson striving, but without success, to throw Mr. Hawkins on the floor. In this scuffle the whip was dropped, and Mr. Hawkins being very considerably the lighter of the two, at length seized the first weapon that came within his reach—a "shooting-stick," or rod of iron about a foot in length, and used by printers in "locking up" the type. The struggle was then renewed, and finally Mr. Tompson obtained possession of the stick, and breaking through the door, made off for his home minus his hat and whip. With reference to these assaults we shall make no remark, as against father and son we intend very speedily to set the law in motion, but we beg most distinctly to intimate that attempts at intimidation will never in the slightest degree influence the conduct of this journal with reference to local affairs.

Mr. Nolan, President of the Huntly Shire Council, has obtained £50 damages against the *Bendigo Advertiser*, for a libel in that paper, attributing to him Fenian proclivities.

NEW JOURNAL.—We have received Nos. 1 and 2 of the *Queensland Express*, published at Brisbane, and intended to supply the place lately occupied by the *Guardian*. The *Express* is intended to be issued bi-weekly for the present—on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The numbers before us are exceedingly well got up—the publishers being Messrs. Belbridge and Atkin. The proprietors state that the amalgamation which has taken place between the proprietary of the *Courier* and *Guardian*, newspapers has left the metropolitan districts in the hands of a single journal, many of the proprietors of which are squatters. The politics of the *Express* are said to be essentially Liberal.

NEW ZEALAND.

The *Hawke's Bay Times* says:—The question of the repeal of the impost of one penny on each newspaper transmitted through the Post Office was brought before the House of Representatives on the evening of the 19th ult. by Mr. Vogel, who made a motion in the following words:—"That in order to remove all restrictions in the way of the free circulation of newspapers, it is desirable to abolish the postal charges thereon, and that the Government be requested to introduce a measure to give effect to this resolution."

As might be expected from a Government which has always hitherto been famous for its antagonism to the Press, the motion was warmly opposed—Mr. Hall taking up the cudgels, and using them so effectually as to show that the Press had nothing to hope for from the present Administration. He said that the postal tax on the transmission of newspapers brought into the Colonial revenue a sum of £5,500 per annum, and that the country was unable to afford the relinquishment of such a sum, even if it were desirable; but he was not able to see any reason why newspapers should be favoured by a free transmission through the post more than any other articles. The strength of the Government was known too well to give Mr. Vogel much hope of a chance of success; however, he divided the House on the motion—the result being its defeat by 3 to 2, the numbers being—for the motion, 22; against it, 33; majority against, 11. It was, perhaps, scarcely wise to bring the question before the present Government, as its fate was so certain; but at the same time it may lead us to hope for a reversal of the policy on the advent of the opposition to power. The division list has not reached us, but we shall be sure to lay it before our readers as soon as it comes to hand.

The question in a modified form will, we understand, once more be brought before the House—that is, so far as relates to *bonâ fide* exchanges; and there is no doubt whatever that the Press has a right to such a concession. If it be argued that those who enjoy the luxury of their newspaper should be made to pay for its delivery to them,—or, being unwilling to do so, must give it up,—it cannot be so argued in reference to the *bonâ fide* exchanges between the several offices in the colony. Whatever may be the case with regard to the papers supplied to subscribers—and we know that a large proportion of that postage falls on the proprietors—there is no reimbursement whatever of the postage paid on exchanges. That is an actual check on the transmission of intelligence, or the interchange of thoughts and feelings; and its removal would be a vast boon to the whole colony.

There is yet another class of papers which have an undoubted claim to the privilege of free postal transmission. We mean those which are sent gratuitously to the libraries of the various mechanics' institutes and their kindred associations throughout the colony. Previous to the imposition of the tax, we know that such societies were very largely supplied gratuitously with the colonial papers; but on its imposition that supply almost entirely ceased, few of the proprietors of newspapers being in a position to afford the cost of postage in addition to that of the paper itself—in fact "free lists" have almost become things of a bygone day. These concessions, then, we may reasonably hope for from a Government and a House that has refused to repeal the tax as a whole, and we trust that all those members who have the intellectual progress of the colony at heart will help to bring them about, so that all newspapers published *bonâ fide* for exchange or public benefit in the libraries of mechanics' institutes, &c., shall be exempt from postage, provided they bear on the cover a notification to that effect.

The *Evening Post*, August 20, says:—"On a division [in the House of Representatives on the 19th], the attempt made by Mr. Vogel to abolish newspaper postage was negatived by 33 votes to 22. It is to be hoped that a similar fate is not awaiting the proposed abolishment of postage rates upon journals' exchanges, which, it is understood, will shortly be brought before the notice of hon. members."

CHINA.

There is a newspaper recently started at Shanghai, called the *Shanghai Leus Letter*. It may be considered a Chino-American paper, being prepared for the departure by the Pacific mail, and, judging from its first issue, is to keep Americans at home thoroughly informed upon the doings of their countrymen, and their interests, at the several ports of China and Japan. Its contents comprise an abstract of the news of the preceding month, market and shipping reports, the movements of the American navy in Eastern waters, and the various miscellaneous matters which it concerns Americans to know.

ANONYMOUS JOURNALISM.—A correspondent of *Public Opinion*, of the 21st ult., invites a discussion "on the advantages and disadvantages of the practice of anonymous writing in the Press."

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH, WESTMINSTER, NOV. 24.
(Sittings in Banco, before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, Mr. Justice LUSH, and Mr. Justice HANNEN.)

THE QUEEN, ON THE APPLICATION OF MR. TRAVIS, THE STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATE OF HULL, V. THE "HULL MORNING NEWS."

This was the application on the part of Mr. Travis, the stipendiary magistrate of Hull, for a criminal information against the publisher of the *Hull Eastern Morning News* and a Mr. Spurr, of Hull, for a libellous letter written by the latter and published in that paper. The matter arose thus:—Mr. Spurr had made an application before Mr. Travis for a summons against some person connected with a bank at Hull. The application was refused, and it transpired that just before it came on Mr. Travis happened to have been at the bank. In point of fact, it was to get a check cashed and a bill sent to London; he was only there a few minutes, did not see the person implicated, and spoke to no one on the subject. The circumstance, however, seems to have inspired Mr. Spurr with a suspicion that some influence had been exercised on the mind of Mr. Travis in favour of the person implicated, or that he had some previous acquaintance with him. Under the influence of this suspicion he wrote a letter to the paper which connected the visit to the bank with the fate of the application, and suggested that it was the result of partiality. He referred to a previous letter under the signature of "Justice," calling attention to the case, and commenting upon it as unfortunate, and he wrote thus:—"That 'Justice' may have a little more light on the matter, let me tell him that upon entering the court I saw Mr. Travis was not there, and upon inquiry found that he had been sent for to the bank and was there. (So much for Mr. Travis's impartiality.)" The editor of the paper thought this was an unjustifiable reflection on Mr. Travis's impartiality, and refused to insert it until the last words were omitted. He then inserted it, upon which, next day, Mr. Travis, in the presence of the Mayor, made a calm and temperate statement entirely explaining his presence at the bank, and clearly showing that there was not the least foundation for the imputation. Nevertheless, although this was published, there was no retraction or withdrawal of the charge, and therefore Mr. Travis applied for and had obtained a rule *nisi* for a criminal information against the publisher and the writer of the letter.

Mr. Field, Q.C., showed cause on behalf of Mr. Spurr, urging that he had been told Mr. Travis was at the bank just before the application was heard; and this suggested the suspicion to his mind.

The Lord Chief Justice, however, observed that a complete retraction and apology having been made by the writer of the letter through his counsel,

Mr. Quain (with him Mr. Anstie) appeared for the publisher, and urged that he had struck out the words, "So much for Mr. Travis's impartiality;" but

The Lord Chief Justice observed that he had published the letter, plainly suggesting an imputation which he admitted he believed to be groundless, merely striking out the words which made it in express terms—that is to say, he merely refrained from making it expressly, and made it impliedly, knowing it to be without foundation. That rather made the matter worse, and unless the charge was unequivocally withdrawn, and regret was expressed for it, the rule would be made absolute.

Mr. Dowdeswell (with him Mr. P. Thompson) appeared for Mr. Travis, and said his only object had been to vindicate his character, and he was quite satisfied with the withdrawal of the charge, and had no desire to press hostile proceedings.

The Lord Chief Justice, in pronouncing the conclusion of the Court upon the case, said: It is admitted now that there is no foundation for the charge made upon the character of Mr. Travis. Taking this into consideration, and that the publisher and writer of the letter both express their regret for it, the one for the rash conclusion which he had drawn, and to which he gave expression, and the other for having published it in his newspaper, and offer the fullest apology, and that Mr. Travis does not press the application against them, it may be discharged. But most unquestionably he must be entirely relieved from every expense which could attend the application to this Court, which he was bound to make

for the vindication of his character, and therefore the rule will be discharged, only upon the condition that the defendants remunerate Mr. Travis for any expenses to which he may have been put incident to this application, and pay all costs as between attorney and client.

Rule discharged on payment of all costs.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH, WESTMINSTER, NOV. 25.
(Sittings in Banco, before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, Mr. Justice LUSH, and Mr. Justice HAYES.)

WASON V. WALTER.

This was an appeal against the ruling of the Lord Chief Justice on the trial reported in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* of January, 1868, in which the plaintiff sought to recover damages from the *Times* for a reflection alleged to be cast upon him in the report of certain Parliamentary proceedings and comments thereon.

After a lengthened argument by Mr. J. Jones and Mr. R. E. Turner on behalf of the plaintiff, and the Attorney-General, Mr. Coleridge, and Mr. C. Wood for the defendant, the Lord Chief Justice read the judgment of the Court on the 25th ult. (It will be found fully reported in another column).

Rule discharged.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—DUBLIN, NOV. 15.
(Sittings in Banco; coram MONAHAN C. J. and MORRIS, J.)

ACTION FOR ALLEGED LIBEL.—BARRY, M.P., V. M'GRATH.

This was an action brought by Mr. Sergeant Barry, M.P. for Dungarvan, to recover £5,000 damages for an alleged libel published in the *Waterford Citizen*, of which the defendant is proprietor. The words complained of, and which formed portion of a correspondence forwarded from Dublin, are the following:—"Did you hear that Sergeant Barry was decreed for his tailor's bill of £40, and his name entered in *Stubbs' List*?" The defendant pleaded that the libel was published without actual malice and without gross negligence; that at the earliest opportunity after it was complained of he published a full apology, and lodged in court five shillings as amends for the injury sustained by the plaintiff by the publication of the libel; and that the words complained of were not published in the defamatory sense imputed. The case now came before the Court on the motion of counsel to set aside an order to plead double matter, obtained from Mr. Justice Keogh in chamber. The Court granted the motion, deciding that it was not competent for a defendant to plead to an action, and also to lodge money in court in satisfaction of the injury complained of. Counsel for the plaintiff, Mr. P. Keogh; for the defendant, Mr. J. Harris.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—DUBLIN, NOV. 19.

LYNCH V. KNOX.

This was an action for libel. The plaintiff is a cattle dealer, and the defendant is the newly-elected member for the borough of Sligo, Major L. E. Knox, of the Tower Hamlets Militia, and proprietor of the *Irish Times*. Mr. Weir, for the defendant, moved for an extension of time to file the pleas, owing to the absence of senior counsel. Application granted.

In the case of *Temple v. Williams*, lately tried at the Worcester County Court, the plaintiff sought to recover £12 12s. for contributions supplied to the *Vale of Evesham News*, of which the defendant is proprietor. The defence set up was that the plaintiff had simply written the articles as a labour of love, and that no compensation was ever agreed upon. The judge, Mr. Robert A. Kettle, did not believe in the *bona fides* of the defendant's evidence, and gave a verdict for the plaintiff.

"VANITY FAIR."—We have received the first number of a new "weekly show of political, social, and literary wares," under the above title. The matter is of interest, the writing good, and the style original. There are letters from Madrid, New York, and the provinces, and a City article, with the quaint title "Other People's Money." There is also a rather clever poem, in eccentric metre. It remains to be seen whether there is a cranny into which this new aspirant can squeeze itself.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. JAMES B. MANSON.

THE Edinburgh papers record the decease of Mr. James B. Manson, editor of the *Edinburgh Daily Review*, and formerly editor of the *Northern Daily Express*. "Engaged in writing a leading article for the *Edinburgh Daily Review*," on November 2, says a contemporary, "the hand of death was laid upon him, his ready pen dropped from his fingers, his literary career was rudely closed, his earthly pilgrimage was brought to a sudden termination, his massive brain ceased to throb, his warm heart forgot how to beat, and many a one was deprived of a faithful friend and able counsellor." He was found dead in his study; his pen had dropped out of his hand, and a portion of fresh manuscript was before him. Mrs. Manson, happening to enter, found him leaning backwards in his chair; and although medical aid was immediately called in, it was of no avail, as the beating of his heart had ceased. The exact cause of his death is not known, though it is imagined, from the fact of its suddenness, and his having been slightly ailing for a short time, that it is attributable to heart disease. The late Mr. Manson was a native of the north of Scotland, and graduated at Aberdeen, where he was distinguished for his knowledge of the classics and his poetical tendencies. After being tutor in a gentleman's family, schoolmaster in Bannockburn, and occupying various other positions, he joined the newspaper Press as editor of the *Stirling Observer*. His next post was that of editor of the *Northern Daily Express*; and finally, in 1862, he joined the editorial staff of the *Edinburgh Daily Review*, on which he continued to the very moment of his death. As a writer, Mr. Manson was noted for his power and facility, while he had considerable classical knowledge, and skill in fine-art criticism. He leaves behind him a widow and seven children, the eldest of whom, a boy of 17, is at present attending the High School of Edinburgh. The deceased gentleman was about 45 years of age at the time of his death.

MR. JOHN CUNLIFFE.

We have to announce the death of Mr. John Cunliffe, proprietor of the *Bolton Guardian*, which took place on the 25th of October, at his residence in Arkwright-street, Bolton. Mr. Cunliffe early in life became identified with the temperance cause, of which he was one of the earliest and staunchest advocates, and had been secretary to the Bolton Temperance Society for 20 years. During a period of 12 years he was the financial and corresponding secretary of the British Temperance League, and during the whole of that time edited the *British Temperance Advocate*, a journal devoted to the spread of temperance doctrines. After he became located at Bolton, as proprietor of the *Bolton Guardian*, he was returned, in 1857, as town councillor for the East Ward, which he continued to represent for three years; and in 1866 he was elected Chief Ruler of the Independent Order of Rechabites, Salford Unity. Mr. Cunliffe was also an active local preacher, and until recently was superintendent of the Sunday-school belonging to the chapel of the New Methodist Connexion in St. George's-road, Bolton.

MR. ALDERMAN WILLIAMS.

The Sunderland papers record the death of Alderman James Williams, proprietor of the *Sunderland Times*, which took place on the 1st of November, at the age of 57 years. Mr. Williams was born at Dalkeith, in October, 1811, and was brought to Sunderland at the early age of five years. He was greatly indebted to the early training and instruction of his mother, and in early life he founded a debating society in Sunderland, the first of its kind in that town. In 1831 he became connected with the temperance movement, and was an active platform speaker in the cause, in which he was greatly assisted by a Mr. George Binns. On the outburst of the Chartist agitation, in 1838, they entered heart and soul into the struggle, and forsook their respective employments to take to the more congenial occupation of book-sellers and newsagents. Mr. Williams took the indoor management of the business, while Mr. Binns pushed about the town and neighbourhood, disseminating the literature in which they were interested as political reformers. At a great mass-meeting held

about that time, Mr. Hetherington, a reporter of the local *Herald*, took notes of certain language alleged to be seditious; and the compatriots were brought to trial at the summer assizes of 1839, found guilty, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. During their incarceration in gaol, Messrs. Williams and Binns held a perpetual *levée* of their admirers, and after their term had expired they were carried home in triumph, amid displays of popular rejoicing and demonstrations of joy. Shortly after this event, Mr. Binns left the partnership, but Mr. Williams continued to carry on the bookselling business in Bridge Street, Sunderland. While in prison he made the acquaintance of his future wife, a Miss Barbara Wilson, then living in the family of the governor of the gaol, whom he married shortly after his release. In 1847, he entered the Sunderland Town Council, and in 1856 was elected an alderman, and would have been mayor for the next year if he had survived. Having added the printing business to that of book-selling, he many years ago removed to the premises in High Street, and had been proprietor of the *Sunderland Times* since October, 1857. The late alderman founded the first mechanics' institution in Sunderland, and was a contributor in many ways to "local" improvements.

MR. WILLIAM BULMER.

The death is reported of Mr. William Bulmer, sub-editor of the *Durham Chronicle*, who breathed his last on the 13th November. The deceased, who was a well-known citizen of Durham, served his apprenticeship in the office of the *Durham County Advertiser*, and for many years filled the office of reader to the *Durham Chronicle*, of which journal he latterly became the sub-editor. Mr. Bulmer was a steward to the freemen of Durham, in whose affairs he always took a lively interest, and was also a member of the Masonic Brotherhood. On November 15th his remains were followed to their last resting-place by a large concourse of friends and acquaintances.

MR. JOHN HUGHES.

This gentleman, who was proprietor and editor of the *West Surrey Times*, published at Guildford, expired suddenly on the 2nd November, after an attack of apoplexy, at the age of 45 years. The late Mr. Hughes was born at Linlithgow, near Edinburgh, and was the youngest son of Mr. Thomas Hughes, an eminent civil engineer, and author of some valuable works on engineering science. He completed his education at Marischal College, Aberdeen, and then came to London with the view of studying for the bar. Literature, however, offered more attractions to the young and ardent student than the dry pursuits of the law, and, at the age of 19, he began his literary career by joining the parliamentary reporting staff of the *Evening Sun*, then a journal of great influence and circulation. In the reporters' gallery he speedily became famed for the intelligent correctness of his notes, and the rapidity with which he transcribed them. During the recess he furnished reports of cases at the Bow-street Police Court, and the column of police news he contributed gained for the *Evening Sun* extensive notoriety. In his twenty-first year the proprietors of *The Times* offered him an appointment on the parliamentary staff of that journal, and his abilities were recognised by his being specially deputed to report the Budget and other important speeches. While on the staff of *The Times* one of his colleagues was Dr. W. H. Russell, well known as the *Times'* correspondent in various parts of the world, and recently a candidate for the representation of the borough of Chelsea. The *Morning Chronicle* next secured both Messrs. Hughes and Russell's services, and they transferred their allegiance from Printing House Square to the Strand. Subsequently Mr. Hughes joined the staff of the *Daily News*, then under the editorial management of Mr. Charles Dickens. He afterwards rejoined the staff of *The Times*, and some of the most graphic and ably written notices of opening ceremonies, distinguished visits, and remarkable occurrences in the *Times* of this period were from the pen of Mr. Hughes. He was specially thanked by Mr. Delane, editor of *The Times*, for his admirable report of the trial of Palmer, the notorious poisoner. Nor were his literary efforts confined to the discharge of his particular duties on *The Times*, for he acted as theatrical art-critic of the *Era*, and also contributed to various magazines and periodicals. In 1860, being desirous of enjoying a country life, he purchased

the *West Surrey Times*, then printed and published at Godalming. He removed the paper to Guildford, and continued to edit it up to the date of his death. It has been announced that the *West Surrey Times* will continue to be published under the proprietorship of Mrs. Hughes, the widow of the deceased journalist.

Home Subjects.

THE *Evening News* has recently been started at Manchester. The *Salford Weekly News* has been doubled in size. The *Dorset County Express* has become the property of Mr. T. H. Rugg, of Sherborne, and Mr. Alfred Atkins, of Dorchester. A new penny weekly paper has been started at Limerick, under the title of the *National Independent*.

At Ashford, in Kent, a new Conservative journal has been started, as the *Kentish Guardian*.

THE Wednesday issue of the *Clerkenwell News* is in future to be a double paper, price one penny.

THE proprietor of the *City Press* has lately opened an office (for advertisements only), at 125, Fleet-street.

THE *Grocer* and the *Chemist and Druggist* have been enlarged to the extent of eight pages each.

THE office of the *Record* has been removed from 169, Fleet-street to Red Lion-court.

THE *Orb*, a religious paper issued from the *Weekly Budget* office, has been incorporated with the *English Churchman*.

MR. HUMPHREYS, the coroner, is said to be a part proprietor of the *Eastern Post*, the new local paper announced in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* of last month.

MR. JENKINS, sub-editor of the *Quarterly Journal of Science*, has been chosen editor of the *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society*. Mr. Jenkins is chosen also secretary to the Society.

"THE CENSOR," a satirical journal, after an existence of twenty-five weeks, during which time it was busily engaged in castigating various follies by pen and pencil, has ceased to appear.

THE Liverpool morning and evening paper, called the *Dawn and Sunset*, lately mentioned in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*, after an existence of about six months, has ceased.

THE *Echo*, the new evening newspaper, is to be printed by two of Marinoni's machines, capable of producing 80,000 copies per hour. They are, we believe, the first of their kind introduced into this country.

THE *Cheyenne Argus* (Wyoming), has the following paragraph in a prominent part of the paper:—"Coal and wood wanted at this office, to be paid for in advertisements, subscriptions, and printing."

A new weekly Conservative penny paper is, we hear, about to be started, for the purpose of endeavouring to counteract the ultra-liberal principles of *Lloyd's*, *Reynolds's*, and the *Weekly Times*.

BRIGHTON has now a daily paper in the *Daily News*, which made its *entrée* on the 1st of November. It is exceedingly well got up, and is printed and published by Messrs. Ingold and Robinson, of Lewes-road, at the price of one halfpenny.

MR. G. W. CHILDS, the proprietor of the *Philadelphia Public Ledger*, has arrived in this country, having been advised to travel for the benefit of his health. We understand he will remain in Europe until January.

THE *Charities Record and Philanthropic Messenger*, started a year and a half ago as the organ of the charitable world, has been discontinued, the proprietor having discovered that there are a great many charitable societies which, for reasons of their own, do not desire publicity or court notice.

THE MORNING SUMMARY, the new daily penny paper announced in No. 24 of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*, made its appearance according to promise on the 11th ult. It is printed on toned paper, and is somewhat after the pattern of the *Pall Mall Gazette*. Its politics are Conservative.

STAMPED NEWSPAPERS.—In the financial year ending the 31st of March, 1868, according to a parliamentary return lately printed, 27,892,769 newspaper stamps were issued from the Stamp-office, producing the total gross sum of £120,225—giving free transmission of newspapers by post in the United Kingdom.

THE *Tottenham and Edmonton Times*, a local paper which

came out six or seven months ago, and was at the time announced in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*, has changed its name to the *Middlesex Weekly Times*, and extended its area. It is now, we understand, under the management of Mr. Henry Fowler, the late able and indefatigable secretary of the Library Company.

THE London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury* writes:—"The 'women articles' of the *Saturday Review* have, I believe, passed into new hands since the death of Mr. Cook, and I do not think that there will be any more reason to complain of the 'girl of the period' style of criticism. Both the old and the new dissector of the female sex are themselves women. Popular rumour has long attributed the original articles to the daughter of a late judge; and the recent ones are from the pen of a popular lady novelist, who is contributing some essays on the same subject to the *Broadway*."

SUDDEN DEATH OF A NEWSPAPER EDITOR.—On Monday, Nov. 2nd, Mr. J. B. Manson, the principal leader writer on the staff of the *Edinburgh Daily Review*, suddenly expired in his study, at his house in that city. He was sitting at his desk, and had begun an article, welcoming Mr. Bright to Edinburgh, when the pen dropped from his hand, and he died instantaneously. Mr. Manson was an experienced, facile, and trenchant writer, and has been connected with the Scottish and English Press for a good many years.

PROVINCIAL COMIC PAPERS.—We have received the first number of the *Sheffield Blade*, price threepence, brought out by Messrs. Bemrose and Son, of Derby, the proprietors of the *Derby Ram*. The title is excellently drawn and designed; but we cannot say much for the cartoon, representing Mr. Mundella as the "Wandering Jew," being pelted in the market-place at Nottingham, and making his way to canvass Sheffield. At Brighton *Jack o' Lantern* has come out as the Liberal antagonist to the Conservative *Will o' the Wisp*. At Manchester a penny "Serio Comic" has come out under the title of the *Shadow*.

PROVINCIAL NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE.—The following paragraph, which we take from the *Printers' Register*, affords to some extent a reply to the charge of a contributor to the "Broadway," quoted in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* of September:—"Hitherto the telegraphic communication from America has been limited almost entirely to the arrival of steamers and to those reports which are supplied gratuitously to the Press, but which interest the public very little. Some of the leading country newspapers have made arrangements to improve upon this state of things, and now give their readers daily information from America which does not appear even in *The Times*. The columns of the *Manchester Guardian*, the *Scottsman*, *Liverpool Mercury*, *Birmingham Daily Post*, the *Western Morning News*, and other papers, when compared with the London newspapers, show that the provincial papers have taken the lead in this matter."

Obituary.

- BELMER, WILLIAM, sub editor of the *Durham Chronicle*.
 CUNLIFFE, JOHN, proprietor of the *Bulton Guardian*.
 HAVIS, L. JOSEPH, editor and principal director of the *Siccle of Paris*, at his country residence, Thorigny-sur-Yon, on the 13th October, in his 60th year.
 HUGHES, JOHN, proprietor and editor of the *West Surrey Times*, Nov. 2, aged 45.
 LEYDIS, JOHANNES, at Athens, proprietor and editor of the *Asion*.
 MANSON, JAMES B., editor of the *Edinburgh Daily Review*, Nov. 2.
 REE, BERNHARD PHILIP, at Copenhagen, aged 55, many years editor of the *Aalborg Stiftstidende* of Jutland.
 RICHARD, JEAN MARIA, proprietor of the *Languedocien*, at Pézènes, South of France.
 SPROCHERO, FRANCESCO, at Trieste, formerly editor of the *Barbiere*, and subsequently of the *Belinda*.
 WILLIAMS, MR. ALDERMAN JAMES, proprietor of the *Sunderland Times*, Nov. 1, aged 57.

BANKRUPTS.

- DIXON, KEMP, late of the Strand, journalist.
 HOPKINS, JONAS BAKER, late of Bartholomew Road, Kentish Town, and New King's Road, Fulham, journalist.

Notes and Queries.

- A.B.C.—Leading articles were first introduced into country journals by Mr. Flower, of the *Cambridge Journal*, in the latter part of the last century, whose example was followed in 1801 by Mr. G. W. Barnes, of the *Leeds Mercury*.
 BOSTONITES.—The experiment has been made more than once, and failed.
 ARCHIBALD.—The first daily paper, out of London, appeared at Liverpool, in 1811. It had a short life. The second was the *Northern Express*; it started at Manchester, in 1821, by Henry Burg, but it only ran three months.

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2 Whole Frames	2	0	0	2 Dozen Side-sticks	0	4	0	1 Galley Rack	1	0	0
1 Three-quarter ditto	0	13	0	3 „ Reglet	0	3	0	1 Wetting Trough	6	15	0
1 Half ditto	0	9	6	1000 Quoins	0	8	0	1 Pair Boards	2	0	0
1 Iron Surface	7	10	0	2 Shooters	0	6	0	12 Dozen Ink, at 6d. ..	3	12	0
10 Brass Galleys, Mahogany Rims	4	0	0	2 Mallets	0	4	0	Brass Head	2	0	0
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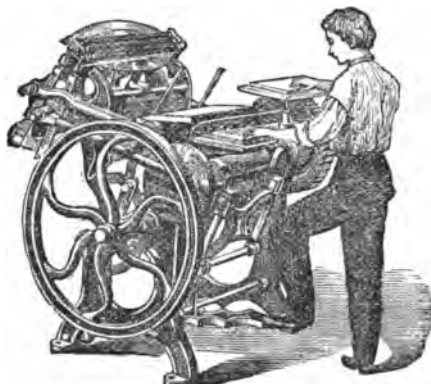
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Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

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6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

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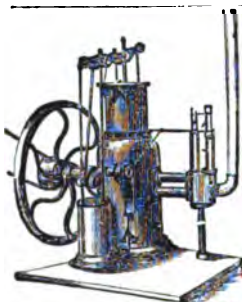
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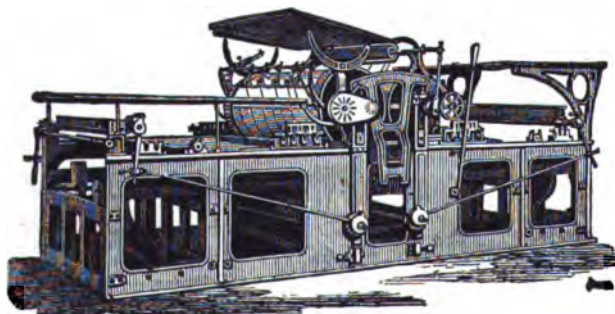
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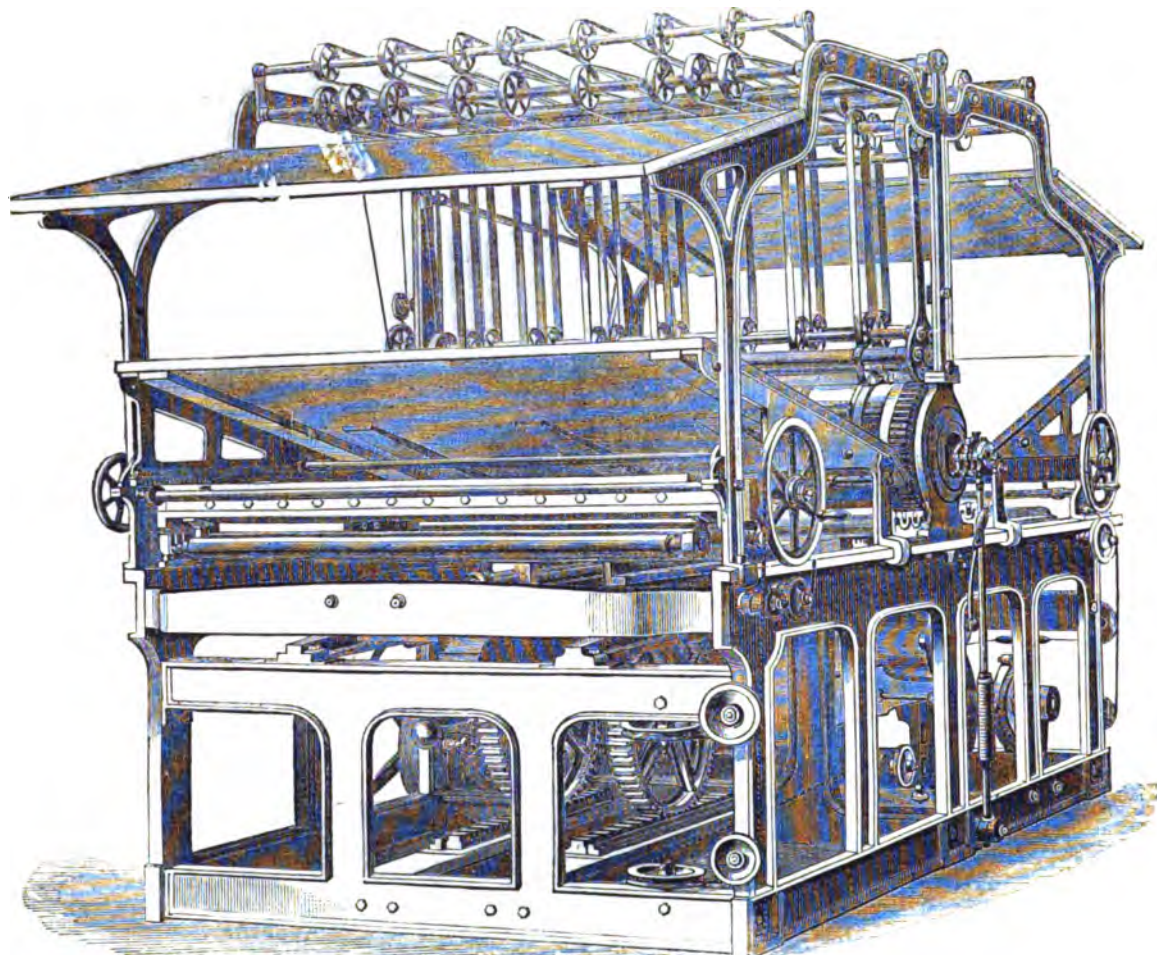
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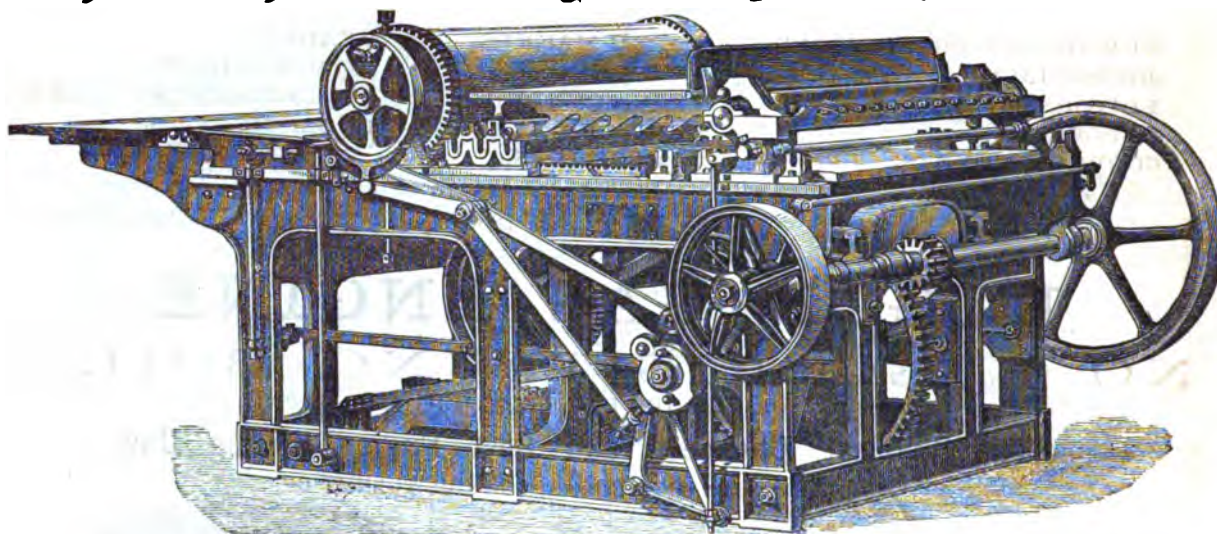
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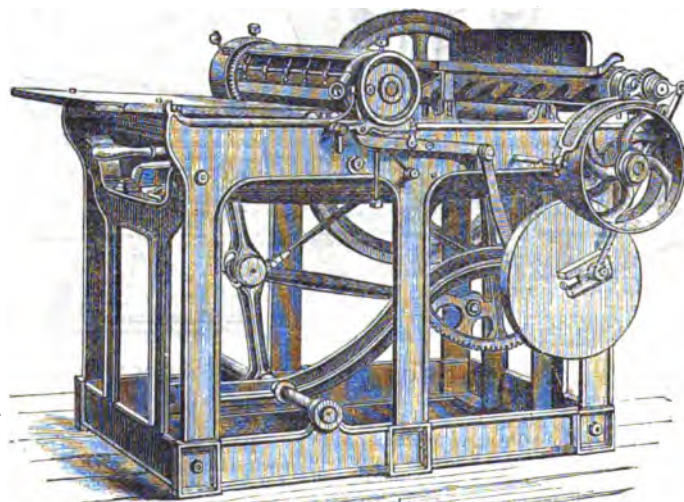
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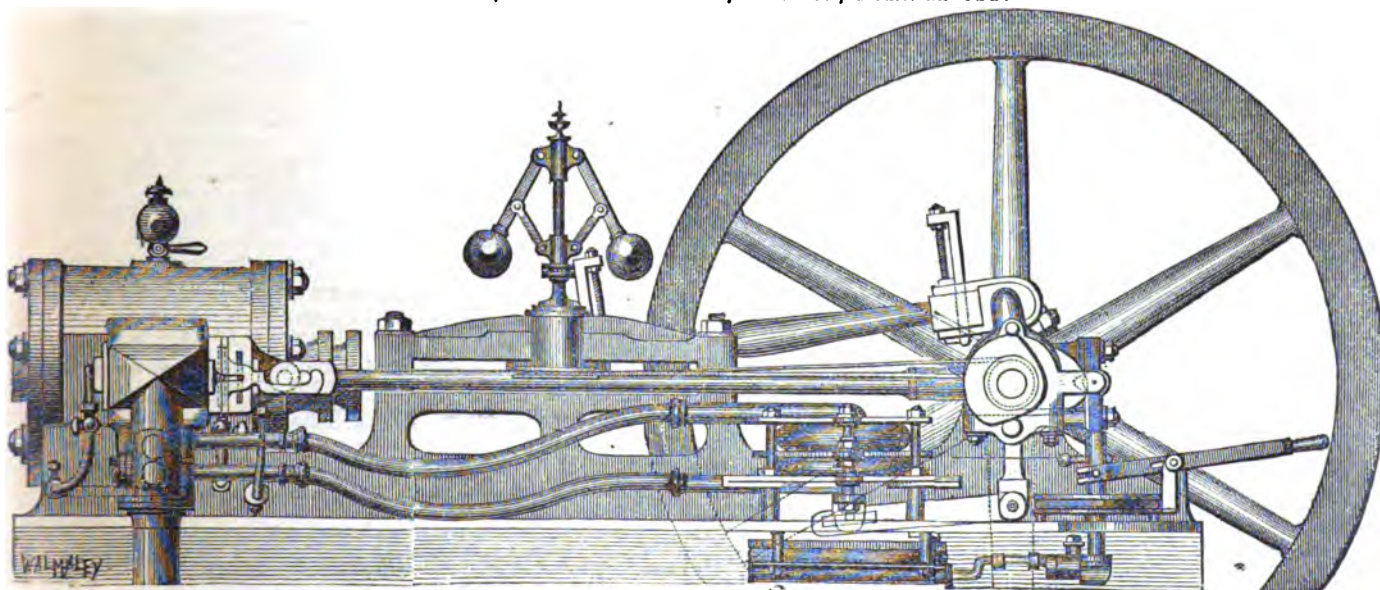
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NOTICE.—By an inadvertency, for which we have to apologise, the first impressions of the Title Page to our Second Volume, given with our December Number, were printed from a form used for Prospectuses. All direct Subscribers and Purchasers whose addresses are known at our Office will receive herewith a corrected Title Page to be substituted for the one partially sent out with No. 25. We believe about 600 copies were issued before the mistake was discovered, but any readers beyond our reach desiring the corrected Title (with the words "Volume II," instead of "Published Monthly," &c.) can receive it on application at the Printing Office, 10, Crane-court, Fleet-street.

SOME verbal missives have been flying among the Press during the past month which do no credit to any of the parties handling them. The *Saturday Review* began the attack, accusing the *Standard*, *Daily News*, and some other journals of pruriency in reproducing unnecessary details of a filthy police case. The accusation was headed, with anything but a happy choice of words, to say nothing of taste, "Newspaper Sewage." The *Standard* replies by calling names, replying to his accuser as the "Saturday Reviler," and winds up the controversy in the following elegant terms:—"The *Saturday Reviewer* returns to the question of 'Newspaper Sewage,' and invites us to further discussion on what he calls the 'manners and the morals of the Cities of the Plain,' 'Lampsacus,' 'Corinth,' &c. We decline the controversy. We have already expressed our opinion as to the truth and courtesy of our contemporary's charges, and we have nothing to retract. We should no more think of arguing with such an assailant than of parleying with an individual who attempted to extort money by preferring a charge of gross immorality. As to the perils of the 'muck-hill' which he declares himself ready to brave in the cause of public morality, he may reassure himself. An extra coating of mud is no punishment to the man who voluntarily, to use his own elegant phraseology, 'descends into the gutter.'"

Now this is pitiable to see and read. The writing on both sides is in the worst possible taste. Polished sarcasm, employed in cases of irritation, may be excusable, even when polished to an extreme of keenness that may wound, though we would remind literary combatants of the homely adage about playing with edge-tools, and advise them to abstain from the practice; but such very blunt weapons as these are simply low and vulgar, and of the style properly characterised as "fish-wife."

THE NEW PRESS ASSOCIATION.

THE arrangements for the establishment of the Press Association are nearly perfected. The Act of Parliament for the registration of the Association has been complied with, and the memorandum and the articles of association have been complied with. We now learn definitively that the name of the company is, The Press Association, Limited, that its capital is £18,000, divided into 1,800 shares of £10 each. These particulars are not so interesting as the objects for which the Association is established. These are defined to be "To collect and supply the proprietors of duly registered provincial newspapers with such news and reports as may from time to time be required, and as the company may think fit to collect and supply." To these legitimate objects are added, "The supply of such news, or any portion of it, to clubs, news-rooms, hotels, and to the proprietors of London, foreign, or colonial newspapers, and to private persons other than newspaper proprietors." "To make and carry into effect any arrangements which may be necessary for the collection of such news at home and abroad, and for its transmission by telegraph or otherwise." "To act as agent for the Press in any matters connected with newspaper business or management. The doing of such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects." Such are the leading features of the memorandum of association, which is signed by Messrs. Jaffray, of Birmingham; Harper, of Huddersfield; Saunders, of London; Westcomb, of London and Exeter; Clifford, of Elm Court; Sowder, of Manchester; Ireland, of *Manchester Examiner*; and Taylor, of *Manchester Guardian*.

In glancing over the articles of association, we notice that the new company substitute a new set of provisions for those contained in the table marked A in the schedule of the Companies' Act, 1862. These, however, relate principally to mere matters of detail. Those of special interest to the Newspaper Press are the provisions that the word "provincial" shall comprise all parts of the United Kingdom situated beyond four miles from Charing Cross, but the registered office is to be situated in London. Passing over the allotment of shares, transfer, we find in Article 81 a provision that the member who shall execute a transfer of his shares, or cease to be qualified to be a member, may be removed from the list of shareholders, and in the latter case his shares are to be forfeited to the company, who may sell the same or allow him or his representatives a certain sum for them. This provision, and those contained in Article 83, is not particularly clear, but are evidently designed to prevent persons not newspaper proprietors from being members of the Association or of the council; and section 46 shows that the possible dispute of this forfeiture so guarded against.

When we come to clause 47, which regulates the limit of shares to be held, and the supply of news and reports to members, we read that "a proprietor or manager of a firm of proprietors, shall take in respect of a daily morning newspaper, and any other newspaper or newspapers (not being a daily morning newspaper), published by the same proprietor or firm in the same office, and for circulation in the same town or district, twelve shares." In respect of an evening daily newspaper, or any other newspaper or newspapers published as aforesaid, not being a daily morning newspaper, six shares. In respect of a morning newspaper, published not oftener than three times a week, six shares. In respect of an evening newspaper, published not oftener than three times a week, three shares. In respect of a morning newspaper, published twice a week, four shares. In respect of a weekly newspaper, two shares." When any person or firm have a share in, or become interested in newspapers, "published or purported to be published in more than one town," the person shall take proportionate shares in the company for each separate town. The Committee or Council have absolute power to fix in any case not specified or provided for the number of shares to be taken.

With respect to the supply of news, the Company will hereafter fix the rates, and "that all shareholding newspapers of the same class shall be rated at the same terms of subscription, and shall be subject to the same conditions, and that the rates charged for any class of news or reports, shall be the same for each shareholding subscriber."

The Company reserve power to claim a deposit, and to be paid

a month in advance, for their news and reports, and in default of such deposit or prepayment, the committee may suspend at discretion the transmission of any further supply of news and reports.

The other articles of association do not specially refer to newspaper proprietors, and only relate to the management of the company, the remuneration of committee or council, and the audit and accounts of the company.

EXTRACTS FROM MY NOTE-BOOK.

By ONE OF THE OLD SCHOOL.

PROUD of my profession as a journalist—a profession which ought to rank higher in the cause of civilisation and progress than the time-honoured, but destructive one of arms—I, from my earliest connection with it, established a commonplace book in which to enter anecdotes of the Press. If I ever contemplated publishing them, my prospects were dashed to the earth by the almost simultaneous appearance of "The Fourth Estate" and "The History of British Journalism," which forestalled a great portion of my collection, and the promised work of Mr. Ryan (celebrated for asking the question, "Was Lord Cardigan a hero at Balaclava?"), which, had it appeared, would, doubtlessly, have used up the remnant of my notes. A few of them—perhaps overlooked, or probably considered too trivial for insertion in the two standard works I have indicated—remain, and the NEWSPAPER PRESS being now, by universal consent, the depository of all "journalistic lore," I send a few "files" to be encrusted and preserved in its "amber."

JOHN ARTHUR ROEBUCK, by an intemperate speech in the House of Commons in 1835, provoked the anger of the daily Press, by the editors of three of which he was challenged to mortal combat. Friends interposed, and the only duel which actually "came off" was with John Black, of the *Morning Chronicle*, when two shots having been exchanged without effect, the seconds considered the honour of each party vindicated, and, very sensibly, according to modern ideas, withdrew their men.

"LE NORO," the mouthpiece of Imperial Russia, was established in 1855 during the Crimean war. It was originally intended to be published at Berlin, but the late King of Prussia set his face against the project, fearing that it might give offence to the Western Powers, so it came out at Brussels, printed in the French language, and written principally by the contributors to the *Indépendance Belge*. It adopted a wary, cautious policy at first—almost conciliatory—and began by throwing out "feelers" as to the possibility of coming to honourable terms of peace. Whether it was "inspired" to any extent by the Belgian King or Government with a view to mediation, with the concurrence of Russia, is uncertain; but it soon adopted a more decided tone, especially adverse to England. The expenses were defrayed by the Russian Government, but not more than twelve hundred copies of its earlier numbers were printed, which were distributed where they were likely to "tell" best.

HENRY DRUMMOND, the once eccentric member for West Surrey, in the course of the debate on the abolition of the stamp duty in 1855, characterised newspapers in round terms as "the greatest curses that could be inflicted on a country."

"THE ILLUSTRATED TIMES" was started June 9th (following rapidly on the abolition of the stamp duty on the 5th), 1855, and was printed by William Dover, of 26 Vine-terrace, Waterloo-road, and published at 15, Gough-square, Fleet-street. Two or three other "illustrateds" were started at the same time. The only one which got a circulation, the *Picture Times*, it soon absorbed, or, as the term was, "incorporated;" the price was twopence, and the illustrations of the Crimean campaign by its own special artist, Julian Portch, and other sketches by Prince Gagarin, and some early drawings by Gustave Doré, and fantastical designs of Kenny Meadows in the style of his Tyas's Shakespeare illustrations (with the inevitable "borders" or "ornaments" by Humphrys and others), together with the sparkling papers of "The Lounger at the Clubs," "The Literary Lounger," and "The Theatrical Lounger;" and the weekly articles on "Law and Crime" and "The Inner Life of the House of Commons" gave it a character which threatened for a time the supremacy of the *Illustrated London News*. It was conducted with wonderful spirit and originality for some time.

"THE PICTURE TIMES" (see note, *ante*) issued from the press of Levy, Robson, and Co., of Great New-street (and was published at 1, Crane-court), on June 30th, 1855, price twopence, on good, stout paper, and with every promise of success. The first number contained twelve illustrations (among them a well executed portrait of Admiral, afterwards Lord Lyons, with an accompanying memoir). It was of larger size, and printed on better paper, than the *Illustrated Times*, but succumbed to the greater talents of its rival, which, by the way, I think, first brought McConnell's sketches before the public eye. The second number contained a wretched portrait of Lord Raglan and illustrations of the riots in Hyde Park incidental on the Sunday Trading Bill, but was obviously falling off in the quality of paper.

"THE EDINBURGH REVIEW."—The motto suggested by Sidney Smith for the first number of the *Edinburgh Review* was "*Tenui Musam Meditamur Arinâ*"—freely translated, "We cultivate literature on a little oatmeal;" but he was overruled.

"THE NORTHERN STAR," the great Chartist organ, was established by Fergus O'Connor as a share speculation, and soon attained the (then) large circulation of 50,000 copies. Fergus was the second son of Roger O'Connor, of Dungan Castle, where he was born in 1796. He sat in Parliament for some years as member for Cork, but was ousted at the instigation of Daniel O'Connell, and from 1847, till a writ of *de lunatico inquirendo* in 1853 pronounced him insane, sat for Nottingham in conjunction with Mr. Walter of the *Times*. Mr. Ernest Jones pronounced the funeral oration over his grave at Kensal-green.

"THE PEOPLE'S TIMES (ILLUSTRATED)" was another offspring of the abolition of the stamp duty, the first number of which appeared on June 30th, 1855, issuing from 1, Crane-court. It was exceedingly well got up, but had a very short existence, though it ostentatiously boasted a "circulation of 100,000."

JOHN BLACK, the editor of the *Morning Chronicle*, was a native of Dunse, in Scotland, and was born in 1783, but coming "south" in 1810 was engaged by Perry as a reporter. He edited the *Morning Chronicle* for twenty-five years, up till 1845. He then retired and lived in a cottage near Rochester, enjoying to the last the friendship of Barnes (of the *Times*), Murray, James Mill, D. Ricardo, MacLaren, Leigh Hunt, Hazlitt, McCulloch, and Albany Fonblanque. Charles Lamb had been among the number of his personal friends. He died on the 25th June, 1855, and was attended to the grave by his old friends, Walter Coulson and Joseph Parkes, after a short illness, which it was thought would not have been fatal had he taken recourse to medical advice at an earlier stage.

Although "One of the Old School" of journalists, I most heartily (and hopefully for an old fellow) endorse the most excellent remarks made in last month's leader in the NEWSPAPER PRESS, and fervently trust that the new generation will, as I believe they do, "improve upon their fathers," and win, by their conduct, the position for our profession which it ought to occupy in the world of letters.

NEWSPAPER COMMENTS ON CASES *SUB JUDICE*.

THE *Times* (Dec. 15) disputes the dictum of Lord Romilly, so far as the editor of the *Volunteer Service Gazette* is concerned, in the case of *Daw v. Eley*. In this matter an application was made to commit Mr. Collette for writing, and the editor of the journal referred to for printing letters referring to the case in question, the object of which was to bias opinion in favour of one of the parties concerned. The Master of the Rolls committed Mr. Collette for contempt, but discharged the editor, leaving him, however, to pay his own costs. While approving the judgment as far as it affects Mr. Collette, the *Times* thinks it is carrying the dignity of courts of equity a little too far, and establishing a principle which may make anybody guilty of contempt without knowing it, and for merely giving an opinion on subjects which strictly regard himself, his friends, his customers, or the public. Can it be said that the publication of letters in ignorance that the writer has any professional interest in the matter, and simply with a view of giving to the readers of a journal the information they contain, is such an interference with the administration of justice as to so far justify a motion to commit the conductor of a newspaper, that he is only to be compassionately excused, and is to be left to pay his own costs? It seems to our contemporary that the recognition of such

a principle is a serious infringement of that liberty of the Press in giving information which has been within the last few days wisely upheld in the Court of Queen's Bench. One or two more decisions in the same spirit as Lord Romilly's, and no conductor of a newspaper will be secure from persecution at the hands of an enterprising litigant.

A PRESS MAN MAYOR OF WATERFORD FOR 1869.

We are happy to perceive (says the *Freeman's Journal*) that a brother Press man has been elected chief magistrate of Waterford for the ensuing year. In the person of Mr. Cornelius Redmond the citizens of the *Urbs Intacta* have made a selection which we are confident will give satisfaction to all classes of citizens. For years Mr. Redmond has been an active, energetic worker in the Liberal ranks; while, as the conductor of an influential local journal (*The Waterford News*), he has rendered valuable service to the popular cause. We therefore congratulate the people of Waterford on the selection their municipal representatives have made, and Mr. Redmond on having attained a position which he has well earned, and which we are sure he will use for the benefit of the entire community over which he has been called on to preside.

The Mayor elect, addressing the corporation upon the declaration of his election, thus referred to the estimation in which municipalities, especially those in Ireland, held the "fourth estate:" "It is not, he said, an unusual thing to see members of the Press mayors of cities in France, in America, in Australia, and even in England, Scotland, and Ireland. After the passing of the Municipal Reform Act, the first lord mayor of the metropolis of Ireland—as he deserved to be the first—was the great O'Connell—soon after him was Michael Staunton, the proprietor of the *Morning Register*. Alderman Watson, J.P., of Limerick, proprietor of the *Chronicle*, was mayor of that city for three years. John Francis Maguire (*Cork Examiner*), as you know, was mayor of the second city in Ireland three or four times (cheers). My old friend, Alderman Greene, J.P., of the *Independent*, was mayor of Wexford, four or five years (applause). Alderman Woods, J.P., Clonmel, proprietor of the *Chronicle*, was mayor of that town last year—so also were Alderman Hackett (*Tipperary Free Press*), and his eldest son (Mr. Hackett, barrister), on former occasions, and to several others I could also refer in the north (hear, hear). At the present time there are four members of the Irish Press in the Imperial Parliament (hear, hear). The first is Maguire, member for Cork. The next is Major Knox, my high-spirited and gentlemanly friend, of the *Irish Times*, member for Sligo (cheers). The third is Patrick M'Mahon, Q.C., an old Press man, member for New Ross (applause). And the fourth is Sir John Gray (*Freeman's Journal*), member for Kilkenny, almost father of the Church movement (loud applause). And it is a noteworthy fact that Sir John gave up the profession of medicine—and he was not an apothecary, but a regular qualified doctor—to become a member of the Press. I think you will agree that the change made him what he is, the most distinguished politician in Ireland."

Since the above remarks were made the corporation of Dublin have elected Sir John Gray to the office of lord mayor of that city for 1869. The honourable gentleman was absent from home at the time of his election, which was made without any communication with him, and on his return declined the honour.

O'S.

THE RIGHT OF PARLIAMENTARY REPORTING.

In delivering judgment in the great case of *Wason v. Walter*, as reported in our last, the Lord Chief Justice, in dealing with the legal privilege of Parliamentary reports, adverted to the collateral subject of the right to report in the following terms: "It only remains to advert to an argument urged against the legality of the publication of parliamentary proceedings, namely, that such publication is illegal as being in contravention of the standing orders of both Houses of Parliament. The fact, no doubt is, that each House of Parliament, by its standing orders, prohibits the publication of its debates; but practically each House not only permits, but also sanctions and encourages the publication of its proceedings, and actually gives every facility to those who report

them. Individual members correct their speeches for publication in *Hansard*, or the public journals, and in every debate reports of former speeches contained therein are constantly referred to. Collectively as well as individually, members of both Houses would deplore as a national misfortune the withholding of their debates from the country at large. Practically speaking, therefore, it is idle to say that the publication of parliamentary proceedings is prohibited by Parliament. The standing orders which prohibit it are obviously maintained only to give each House the control over the publication of its proceedings, and the power of preventing or correcting any abuse of the facility afforded. Independently of the orders of the Houses, there is nothing unlawful in publishing reports of the parliamentary proceedings. Practically such publication is sanctioned by Parliament. It is essential to the working of our parliamentary system, and to the welfare of the nation. Any argument founded on its alleged illegality appears to us, therefore, entirely to fail. Should either House of Parliament ever be so ill advised as to prevent its proceedings from being made known to the country—which certainly will never be the case—any publication of its debates made in contravention of its orders would be a matter between the Houses and the publishers. For the present purpose we must treat such publication as in every respect lawful; and we hold that while honestly and faithfully carried on, those who publish them are free from legal responsibility, though the character of individuals may incidentally be injuriously affected."

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS IN FRANCE.

THE Paris correspondent of the *Standard* gives the following list of convictions against the Press since the passing of the new Press law on the 11th of May last:—

	Fines.
May 22, <i>Courrier Français</i> , one month eight days' imprisonment	1,800f.
May 22, <i>Courrier Français</i> , 24 days' imprisonment	1,500f.
June 19, <i>L'Art</i> , suppression	2,500f.
June 24, <i>Courrier de la Gironde</i> , two months' imprisonment	50f.
June 27, <i>Avenir Algérien</i>	150f.
June 29, <i>Peuple</i>	800f.
July 1, <i>Courrier Français</i>	50f.
July 6, <i>Progrès du Nord</i> , two months' imprisonment ..	500f.
July 6, <i>Ordre d'Arras</i> , two months' imprisonment	500f.
July 7, <i>L'Electeur</i>	10,500f.
July 8, <i>Progrès de l'Algérie</i>	100f.
July 18, <i>Hanneton</i> , suppression	800f.
July 19, <i>Le Réveil</i> , three months and a half imprisonment	5,500f.
July 21, <i>Avenir Algérien</i>	150f.
July 22, <i>International</i> , three months' imprisonment ..	8,000f.
July 24, <i>L'Electeur</i>	50f.
August 1, <i>Emancipation</i>	50f.
August 5, <i>La Lanterne</i>	50f.
August 5, <i>Messager du Sud Ouest</i>	1,200f.
August 11, <i>Figaro</i>	2,800f.
August 11, <i>Courrier de Lyon</i>	100f.
August 12, <i>Figaro</i>	500f.
August 14, <i>La Lanterne</i> , 14 months' imprisonment	14,000f.
August 17, <i>L'Ordre et la Liberté</i>	150f.
August 20, <i>Libéral de Seine et Oise</i>	200f.
August 28, <i>La Lanterne</i> , 15 months' imprisonment	12,000f.
August 28, <i>Le Publicateur de la Vendée</i>	800f.
August 28, <i>Union des Actionnaires</i> , one month's imprisonment	1,000f.
August 31, <i>Messager de Provence</i>	500f.
Sept. 1, <i>Espérance du Peuple</i>	2,500f.
Sept. 5, <i>L'Electeur</i>	1,200f.
Sept. 11, <i>Figaro</i>	50f.
Oct. 10, <i>Prolétaire de Nîmes</i> , suppression	850f.
Oct. 13, <i>Faire aux Sotises</i>	200f.
Oct. 30, <i>Courrier de l'Intérieur</i> , four months' imprisonment	6,000f.
Nov. 5, <i>L'Avenir d'Auch</i>	2,500f.
Nov. 11, <i>Revue Politique</i>	50f.

Nov. 12, <i>L'Ordre et la Liberté</i>	Fines.
Nov. 14, <i>Réveil</i> , six months' imprisonment and interdiction of civil rights	1,800f.
Nov. 14, <i>Revue Politique</i>	4,000f.
Nov. 14, <i>Tribune</i>	2,000f.
Nov. 14, <i>Avenir National</i>	2,000f.
Nov. 18, <i>Foudre</i> , suppression and one month's imprisonment	500f.
Nov. 27, <i>Figaro</i>	500f.
Nov. 27, <i>Figaro</i>	500f.
Nov. 27, <i>Propagateur de l'Aube</i>	500f.
Nov. 27, <i>Progrès du Nord</i> , one month's imprisonment ..	500f.
Nov. 28, <i>Reveil</i> , six months' imprisonment	2,000f.
Nov. 28, <i>Avenir National</i>	2,000f.
Nov. 28, <i>Tribune</i>	2,000f.
Nov. 28, <i>Temps</i>	1,000f.
Nov. 28, <i>Journal de Paris</i>	1,000f.
Nov. 28, <i>Impartial de la Nièvre</i>	200f.
Nov. 28, <i>Revue Politique</i>	2,500f.
Nov. 28, <i>Indépendant des Pyrénées Orientales</i>	200f.
Dec. 2, <i>Indépendant du Centre</i>	500f.
Dec. 2, <i>Emancipation</i>	200f.
Dec. 2, <i>L'Ouest</i>	500f.
Dec. 2, <i>Peuple</i> , three months' imprisonment and interdiction of civil rights	2,500f.
Dec. 10, <i>Emancipation</i>	1,100f.
Dec. 10, <i>Marionette</i> , suppression and three months' imprisonment	2,000f.
Dec. 10, <i>Phare de la Loire</i> , suppression and three months' imprisonment	800f.
Dec. 10, <i>L'Indépendant du Midi</i>	1,000f.
Dec. 10, <i>Le Contribuable</i>	500f.
Total	106,500f.

THE NEW "ERA" FOR THE PROVINCIAL PRESS.

(From the *Printers' Register*.)

It will be of little use to offer Monday's news at a low price, if it be not offered before the following Saturday; and this we take to be the great difficulty our friends of the Provincial Press have to contend with. The numerous supplements which they already issue prove how much they feel it already. On the other hand, there are many large towns in which an issue, daily or three times, or even twice a week regularly, would not pay. Most certainly, it would not pay at the usual price at which country papers are now issued. In truth, unless the Provincial Press becomes a daily Press, it cannot compete, as respects general news, with the London papers; though it might do so—as, indeed, it does in some thickly populated districts, where the local news is carefully collected, added daily to the general news, and published some hours before the arrival of the London papers. But in less important localities this cannot be the case; and in such localities, it seems to us that a newspaper proprietor, while he carefully supplies his subscribers with a summary of all general news, should, nevertheless, make this a subordinate part of his paper, and devote his care, as a provincial publisher, to the news and to those topics of discussion which are of especial interest in his particular locality. The public will not henceforth expect or care to hear from him of the affairs of Spain, the earthquakes in South America, the senatorial combats in the United States, or even of the sayings and doings of the great metropolis. All this they may get, possibly some days before, from the London dailies. But what the public will always want and expect, and what will be sure to keep a provincial paper afloat more than anything else, will be that local news which can only get into local papers, and yet is of intense interest in each locality, viz., that which personally affects the locality itself. No matter what may be going on in the world in general—a debate in Parliament, which may affect a government; a revolution changing a dynasty; a catastrophe involving hundreds of lives; it is not these things a man looks for first in his newspaper, if he expects the paper contains a paragraph announcing his own marriage or the birth of his child; the price of

the shares he bought yesterday; or, above all, the great speech which he delivered, whether at the missionary meeting or the town council—this is the pabulum with which the Provincial Press must henceforward supply provincial readers, if it would continue to exist. The principle is, that a man's own affairs are more important to him than the affairs of all the world besides; and, therefore, henceforward the local Press should devote itself especially, and that, if necessary, to the compression or even exclusion of general news, to the publication and discussion of all local affairs—municipal, sanitary, commercial, charitable or otherwise, which affect its readers. Good reports of meetings on such subjects, intelligent articles and correspondence on local matters; early and accurate information respecting them; and a fair and impartial way of presenting the views of each and every party before the public, will always command readers, ensure confidence and respect, and, though last, not least, profit to the publication which contains them. In these respects many provincial papers are capable of great improvement; they too often neglect local affairs for those of the world in general, which, probably, their readers know more of than they do themselves. Hence we always regret to see one or more columns of a local newspaper occupied with a leader on some matter of general politics, which few read, because they have read the same matter, it may be, better discussed in the London papers. This should be altered; and, in their present critical condition, we recommend our provincial friends to try the method above pointed out, as a beneficial and, at all events, safe prescription, which may prolong their lives and even improve their condition by extending their circulation.

LEGAL REPORTING—THE ELECTION PETITIONS.

(From the *Dublin Freeman's Journal*.)

A CORRESPONDENT belonging to one of the legal professions calls our attention to a provision in the new statute regulating proceedings on election petitions, by which, although the trials are to be local, the legal practitioners to belong to the country, and the judge to be taken from its bench, one functionary is to be imported, namely, the reporter who is to take down the evidence. The gentlemen who belong to the Press in this country, for example, are not to be trusted with the task of stenographing the examination of Irish witnesses, with whose accents, forms of expression, and idioms, they are familiar, but some of the staff who make up *Hansard* must be employed. So in Scotland, too, as in the north of Ireland, where the accustomed ear is needed to catch readily what falls from a tongue with peculiarities of tone and phrase, some Cockney gentleman will be the legal interpreter. We all remember how the *Liberator* treated the Government reporter to the task of taking an Irish speech in shorthand; in many cases the duty now by law given to the Gurney staff will be scarcely less difficult. Apart from that, such a reproach need not be placed upon the profession throughout the United Kingdom. The local tribunal can be as well served by reporters found at home as it will be by judges, barristers, and attorneys had on the spot as if an assizes were going on. The Legislature no longer drags witnesses and counsel and parties to a petition over to London. Why has it sent reporters over from London, as if trustworthy and competent men could not be had here? Not unconnected with this topic is another for which we are also indebted to the same correspondent—namely, the necessity of an official shorthand writer to take down evidence whenever given *viva voce* in a court of justice, and thus to expedite the trial by relieving the presiding judge from a task which engages all his attention, withdrawing it from the consideration of the case and the demeanour of the witnesses. Of the mischiefs incidental to the present system, Chief Justice Whiteside made complaint in the course of his charge to the jury in the important case of *Hendrick v. Hendrick* tried last week in the Queen's Bench. It will be remembered, too, that disputes as to the actual words used by a witness are frequent between opposing counsel, and that the notes of the presiding judge, although not subject to question, are often open to doubt. In conclusion, we may express a well-founded feeling of gratification that the profession of shorthand writer is receiving that recognition in the republic of letters which is due to the diligence and skill directed by educated intelligence indispensable to the exercise of that profession.

The Foreign Press.

PARIS, December 27.

I sent you last month a list of papers prosecuted up till the date of my letter on account of the Baudin subscriptions. I am sorry to say I have to add a long postscript to the letter this month, but shall simply confine myself to the barest details, as the full particulars of these extraordinary proceedings would almost fill your paper:—

Nov. 26.—*L'Indépendant du Tarn*, of Albi, accused before the Correctional Court of Castres for "manœuvres," acquitted.

Nov. 27.—*Le Réveil*, before the Sixth Chamber of the Correctional Police of the same, charged with internal manœuvres. M. Delescluze, the editor, sentenced to a fine of 2,000fr. six months' imprisonment, and deprivation of civil rights.

Same day.—Same tribunal. M. Peyrat, editor of the *Avenir National*, fined 2,000fr. for same offence.

Same day.—Same tribunal, same charge. M. Duret, editor of the *Tribune*, sentenced to a fine of 2,000fr.

Same day.—Same tribunal, same charge. M. Hebrard, editor of the *Temps*, and M. Weiss, editor of the *Journal de Paris*, sentenced to a fine of 1,000fr. each. *Le Progrès du Nord*, of Lille, fined 500fr.

Dec. 2nd.—The Court of Riom annulled the judgment of the Tribunal of Clermont Ferrand (see my last), acquitting the *Indépendant du Centre*, and admitting "extenuating circumstances," inflicting a fine of 500fr. on the manager.

Same day.—*Le Progrès Liberal*, of Toulouse, acquitted.

Same day.—*L'Emancipation*, of the same city, sentenced to 200fr. fine.

Same day.—*Le Peuple*, of Marseilles, prosecuted on the same charge, M. Gustave Naquet, the editor, sentenced to three months' imprisonment, loss of civil rights for the term, and a fine of 500fr.; and M. Chappuis, the gérants, to a fine of 1,000fr. Appeal lodged.

Dec. 4th.—The editor of the *Ouest*, of Angers, fined 500fr., and the editor of the *Indépendant de Perpignan*, fined 200fr., for "internal manœuvres." The *Couronne*, on the same indictment, acquitted.

Dec. 9.—*Le Phare de la Loire*, sentenced to 800fr. fine; but the prosecution of *Le Courrier de Narbonne*, for the same offence, discharged by the Juge d'Instruction.

The above prosecutions were all for publishing lists of the Baudin subscriptions; but there have been numerous other Press prosecutions this month; *inter alia*:—M. Dumarest, editor, and M. X. Fayruet, Paris correspondent, of the *Discussion* of Lyons, sentenced, the first to a fine of 1,500fr. and a week's imprisonment; and the other to 100fr. fine, for exciting to hatred and contempt, &c."

A young woman has been condemned by the Lille magistrates to two months' imprisonment and 100fr. fine, for introducing into France a batch of *Lanternes*. She had hidden the objectionable print under her crinoline!

The *Marionnette*, a satirical paper, published at Lyons, has been sentenced to 2,000fr. fine for writing on politics without authorisation. In addition, the editor is to go to gaol for three months. The *Indépendant du Midi* (published at Nîmes) is to be prosecuted a second time for "manœuvres" and "exciting to the hatred and contempt," &c.

The *Moniteur* announces that on and after the 31st of December next it will cease to be the official organ of the French Government. On the 1st of January, 1869, a new journal having that character will appear, bearing the title of *Le Moniteur Officiel de l'Empire Français*. The name of the existing organ of the French Government, it will be remembered, is *Le Moniteur Universel Journal Officiel de l'Empire Français*. The old *Moniteur* will continue, however, to be published, notwithstanding the termination of its connection with the State.

Some of the Paris journals state that the *feuilleton* of the new official organ will be written by M. Gustave Chais d'Est-Ange, jun., and that the subject is the well-known story of Marie-Antoinette and the diamond necklace.

A hostile meeting lately took place near Paris between M. de Heeckeren and M. Rogat, the latter a writer in the *Evenement*, and better known under the name of Covielle, as correspondent of the *Nord*.

The place of meeting was the Isle of Croissy. The seconds of the first-named gentleman were M. Henri de Vivien, a military officer, and M. Alphonso, while M. Rogat's friends were M. Paul de Cassagnac and M. Bertrand of the *Nord*. M. Heeckeren was wounded in the shoulder, but the combat continued until his adversary was pierced in the abdomen, when the duel ceased. It lasted only four minutes.

A provincial paper, the *Avenir* of Auch, appeared in mourning on the anniversary of the *coup d'état*. It was seized, and is to be prosecuted.

As your readers may possibly be puzzled to know what this charge of "manœuvres" actually means, I will give you a few words in explanation from M. Dufaure's masterly defence of *Le Temps*:—"No doubt the word manœuvres is to be found in our codes; but you construe it in a manner which the code never contemplated. In articles 76 and 77 of the penal code it applies to the crime of throwing open our frontiers to an enemy, to betray state secrets, and give up fortresses to a foreign foe. That is how the word manœuvre is used in the code. But how do you apply it? What does the charge on which you prosecute us consist in? 'Excitation to the hatred and contempt of the Government.' Well that is an intelligible offence, but it is specially provided for and punished by the code; and you do not prosecute us for that offence, but for the undefinable one of 'manœuvres.' You yourself admit that a subscription to raise a monument to honour a dead man is perfectly legitimate in principle, but that it may become under some circumstances a manœuvre tending to hold up the Government to hatred and contempt, and yet you object at the vagueness of this law of 1858 being censured." M. Weiss, editor of the *Journal de Paris* ably defended himself, and made the following pertinent remark:—"The business of a newspaper was to give news, and it was unfair to argue that because the *Journal de Paris* described the 'manifestation' it must have got it up, as it would be to come to the conclusion that it connived at the aggressive policy of Prussia because it described King William's entrance into Paris."

I wish you could afford more space for a report of M. Weiss's able defence; he went very far back, it must be admitted, for a precedent—to the days of the *Acta Durna* of Rome, the very first germs of the newspaper. "I have to go back eighteen centuries to find a precedent. Eighteen centuries ago, at Rome, under the decrepitude of Tiberius, a trial took place which the men of that time considered unprecedented. Trematius Corvas, a Roman senator, in one of those little books which then circulated from hand to hand, and served the purpose of our newspapers and pamphlets, had described Brutus and Cassius as the last of the Romans. He was prosecuted before the Senate, under the *lex majestatis*, and charged with an attempt to disturb the public peace, and hold up the Princes to hatred and contempt. Taking the difference of the times into account, the trial was very like that which is now before you. Assuming that it is the subscription you impugn, my defence shall be as simple as that of Trematius Corvas. He stated—I have the very words of his speech before me—that he did not indulge in unduly ambitious dreams for his country—he did not claim the freedom, amounting to licence, which the Greek republics enjoyed—we would say at the present day, which is enjoyed by all our neighbours, England, Switzerland, Belgium, Spain herself. He stated he only claimed for Rome the limited freedom which was allowed her in the early times of the Empire—those liberties which Caesar himself had respected in allowing Pompey's statue to remain in its stand in the Forum. Trematius Corvas next reminded the Senate that, under Augustus, historians had recorded the fall of the republic without calling Brutus and Cassius murderers and banditti, which had since grown to be the fashion; that Tacitus himself, after writing the 'Annals,' had remained the friend of Augustus, whom he called the last of the 'Pompeyans;' that Augustus himself used to repeat that Cicero, whom when plain Octavius he caused to be murdered was the most honest man of the republic. This conduct was not only generous on the part of Caesar and Augustus—Caesar was naturally high minded—but it was wise, just, and politic. And having said all that, Trematius Corvas added that at all times and in all countries it had been permitted to speak freely of those whom death had removed beyond the reach of admiration or hatred. 'Can any one say,' he

went on, 'that in alluding to Brutus and Cassius I meant to call the people to arms and provoke another Philippi? Must it not be admitted that in paying a tribute to the illustrious dead I only followed the example of their conquerors, who allowed their statues to subsist? Posterity, however, will furnish plenty of people who remember Brutus and Cassius, and even me, if you condemn me.' I don't want to exaggerate anything. The present régime is not that of Tiberius. M. l'Avocat Imperial is not a tool of Sejanus. I am not Trematius Corvas. I have neither his station nor his eloquence, and the tribunal, whatever it sentences me to, will not expect to open my veins in a warm bath. (Laughter.) But as long as the world lasts there will be a controversy as to the merits or demerits of Brutus and Cassius (I myself think they were wrong); but there can be no two opinions as to Baudin. He fell, unarmed, in defence of the Constitution. But with all these differences, the two cases are analogous. The law of public safety is but the *lex majestatis* modernised, and the action brought against Trematius Corvas is now brought against M. Weiss, for expressing his admiration of a man shot down for protesting against the violation of the law."

M. Durier addressed the Court for the *Tribune*, and the Court found all the defendants guilty, and sentenced them as follows:—Delescluze (*Reveil*), six months' imprisonment, 2,000*fr.* fine, and privation of civil rights for six months; Peyrat (*Avenir National*) and Duret (*Tribune*), 2,000*fr.* fine; Hebrard (*Temps*) and Weiss (*Journal de Paris*), 1,000*fr.* fine. As regards the first three defendants, the sentence is to be taken together with that previously pronounced against them.

Provost Paradol in the *Journal des Débats*, thus boldly and facetiously comments on these wholesale attacks upon the Press:—

"Many newspapers and a great many people announced during the autumn that we were sure to have a winter campaign against *la Prusse*; with the trifling alteration of a letter, these prophecies were perfectly right—a vigorous campaign has commenced against '*la Presse*.' Our columns are filled with the bulletins of that war in which, so far, the administration is favoured by fortune, and records a victory after every battle. In short, that campaign against the Press resembles all the more the campaign which has not taken place against *la Prusse*, from the fact that a new engine of warfare is being tried. The *mitrailleuse* has not been experimented against the Prussians, but the law of public safety has been applied to Press trials; the imputation of manoeuvres and 'understandings' have been directed against public writings. We are bound to confess that this new weapon has 'done wonders,' just like the Chassepot at Mentana. As M. Weiss demonstrated with exquisite wit, to go to the cemetery is no offence, to open a subscription is no offence either—that much is granted—but if you open a subscription after having gone to the churchyard, or even if you open a subscription after other people whom you don't know, nor even heard of, have gone to the cemetery, you have committed the offence of *manœuvres* and *intelligences*."

M. Jules Favre, who went down to Troyes the other day to defend the *Propagateur de l'Aube* on a charge of "offending the Sovereign," was entertained at a banquet, to which hundreds flocked from all parts of the department.

PRO RE NATÂ.

None of the more than usually interesting and important events of the past month—neither the advent of the Liberal party to power in England, nor a partial change of the ministry at home, nor yet the serious complications between Turkey and Greece, which threaten to disturb the peace of Europe, and lead to a premature solution of the Eastern problem—have been able to detract the attention of the Emperor's Government for one moment from pursuing their system of gagging the Press, and endeavouring to crush out all newspapers and their writers. And yet, were the Emperor to look fairly and impartially at the result achieved, he could not but confess to himself that he has not only not succeeded in his object, but done what he never contemplated,—making himself extremely unpopular, and arousing that feeling of dogged resistance and embitterment in the minds of the French nation, which his own sagacity and experience, to say nothing of the teachings of history, must tell him bode no good for the future. Were he to throw himself into the arms of his people, and grant them full liberty of the Press, the French are such an impression-

able nation that he might easily make himself the most popular sovereign in Europe; but either he fails to see it in that light, or else the people about him are unable, and perhaps unwilling to open his eyes to the yawning precipice to which he is blindly verging with awfully rapid strides. Few things could have tended more to estrange him from the educated and thinking portion of his subjects than the zeal displayed by the authorities in their late vain and futile attempts to ruin the newspaper proprietors, and stop the mouths of free-spoken editors by fines, loss of civil rights, and imprisonment. I must confess I fully expected that the crushing policy pursued by the Government last month in that wretched Baudin Subscription affair would have brought things to a climax; and I cannot help believing that the end is not far off, for it is impossible to shut one's eyes and ears to what is passing every day. The French are pre-eminently a talkative people, and far from putting their heads together, and talking over their grievances in secret, they are rather fond of speaking loud on the Boulevards, and other places of public resort, caring little who stops to listen to what they say.

Since my last letter, there have been plenty of fresh Press prosecutions both here and in the country; and, indeed, the provincial journals exhibit a much greater degree of hostility towards the Government than those of the metropolis, possibly from the mistaken idea that their diatribes will be overlooked, or, at all events, escape punishment; but they unfortunately find out, to their cost, that such is not the case, and that the Argus eyes of the Government officials are too sharp to be deceived. It is remarkable that in all the Press prosecutions they should invariably result in conviction and punishment; but it shows that it is not only the liberty of the Press that is gagged, but that the Crown officers of the Law Courts are obsequious enough to execute the will of their chief without scarcely caring to keep up the show of independent justice. There is but one solitary instance of a court of justice bold enough to order an acquittal, and that was the Court of Correctional Police at Clermont-Ferrand, which acquitted the *Indépendant du Centre*, charged with that bugbear of publishing the names of contributors to the Baudin fund. It is related here that when the President of the Tribunal was sent for to Paris to answer for his conduct to M. Baroche, the Minister of Justice, instead of attempting to justify himself, he simply laid on the table more than four hundred visiting cards that he had received from colleagues in office, and other lawyers and barristers in various parts of France since the publication of the acquittal, in proof of their concurrence with his view of the affair. The great man appeared much perplexed at this, but broke out into violent language, and required him to tender his resignation, but this the President flatly refused to do, and remained firm. But the triumph of the Liberal party did not last long, for appeal was made on the part of the Government to the superior tribunal of the district—the Court of Cassation at Riom—where the judges were sufficiently cringing to reverse the sentence without the slightest difficulty, and find the editor guilty, condemning him to pay a fine of only 500*fr.*, because they were good enough to recognise extenuating circumstances, though in what these consisted was, perhaps, below their dignity to explain.

Amongst the many persecutions of the provincial Press may be mentioned the case of the *Marionnette*, a satirical paper, published at Lyons, where it is very popular, as that city is one of the great strongholds of the working men who as a class are so strongly opposed to the Government. This journal, which was started not long ago as successor to the *Guignol*, suppressed, has been singled out as the peculiar object of the severity of the Draconic Press law in force. On the 11th inst. M. Labaume, the director and proprietor, was condemned by the Court of Correctional Police at Lyons for publishing political matter without having deposited the required caution money, his sentence being three months' imprisonment, a fine of 8,000*fr.*, and suppression of the paper. On the following day he was condemned by the Court of Appeal in that city to six months' imprisonment, and the maximum fine of 3,000*fr.* for defamation of the memory of the late M. Vaisse, formerly Prefect of the Rhone, the sentence of the court being moreover ordered to be published in the local papers of all the places where the unquihle gentleman had resided. It is worthy of remark that in the Court of First Instance the *Marionnette* had been acquitted of the charge, on the ground that the law of Novem-

ber, 1819, describing defamation of character, could only be interpreted as regarding living persons, and had no reference to the dead. In the next number after its acquittal the *Marionnette* offered to withdraw the defamatory article and substitute for it the declaration published by the heirs of M. Vaisse, which was to the following effect: "M. Vaisse, Senator of the French Empire, Prefect of the Rhone, and Knight Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, added to his other dignities and public functions the profession of one-sixteenth part of an *agent de change*," or stock-broker. But the Court of appeal only considered this a still grosser libel, and instead of confirming the acquittal they thought proper to reverse the sentence and condemn him to the highest fine the law allowed, and the heavy punishment of six months' imprisonment. But notwithstanding this studied severity, M. Labaume was not to be so easily discouraged and put down; for last week he published the first number of the *Marionnette Politique*, having deposited the usual caution money three days before the suppression of his *Marrionette Littéraire*. In this opening number he publishes a list of nine serious crimes lately committed at Lyons, the authors of which are still undiscovered; and he winds up by exclaiming to the members of the *parquet*, "Less zeal, gentlemen, against poor journalists, and more against robbers, murderers, and other criminals." But M. Labaume has unfortunately made himself so obnoxious to the authorities that they even deny him the innocent amusement of publishing a political journal. That gentlemen has written a letter to several other editors of papers, acquainting them with the fact of his having received an official communication from the *Procureur Général*, informing him that any periodical, whether political or literary, published by him must be considered as the continuation of a suppressed journal, and therefore liable to punishment; in consequence of which he gives notice that the paper will be discontinued for the present. "On the other hand," adds the writer, "as I cannot be the only citizen deprived of the benefit of art. 1 of the law of May 11, 1868" (the new Press law), "which authorises every Frenchman in the enjoyment of his civil and political rights to establish a political journal, I am about to take steps in order to ascertain exactly the extent of my rights, and to be informed officially within what limits I may be permitted to exercise my profession of a journalist; and then I shall not fail to let you know what dispositions I have taken for the publication of a new paper."

Since writing the foregoing I regret having to report three more cases of the cringing subserviency of the courts of justice to the inexorable system of persecuting the Press. Three provincial journals in the south of France, the *Emancipation* and the *Progrès Libéral*, of Toulouse, and *Indépendant du Tarn*, were prosecuted for publishing subscription lists for the Baudin monument, and acquitted. Appeal was then made by the Procurator Fiscal to the higher tribunal, and the Court of Cassation at Toulouse was obsequious enough to quash the decision in all three cases, and condemn the *Emancipation* to pay a fine of 600*fr.*, and the two others to fines of 500*fr.* each.

Various opinions have been formed as to the reason and the object of the late changes in the *personnel* of the French ministry, some people imagining that the dismissal of M. Pinard as Minister of the Interior is a concession made to public opinion, and a recognition of his having persecuted the Press with too great severity. The *Contribuable* of Rochefort says in its last issue, "We have just received a letter from our well-informed correspondent at Paris announcing that the first official step of M. Forcade la Roquette, in his new capacity as Minister of the Interior, will be to grant a general amnesty for all Press offences punished during the last six months, and hope that this good news may be confirmed." It must be confessed that this is taking a very sanguine view of the case, for the authorities, who are not fond of granting delays, have already encashed by far the greater part of the fines to which the journals were condemned, and it is not likely that the money will be returned. I venture to think it more probable that the accompanying punishment of imprisonment may be remitted, and that the journalists now languishing in *carcere* might be liberated before the end of the year. Should there be, however, any truth in the statement made by the correspondent of the *Contribuable*, it might prove a pecuniary benefit for the Toulouse and other journals whose sentences have been

reversed, or who have very lately felt the strong arm of authority, such as the *Phare de la Loire* of Nantes, fined 800*fr.* for publishing lists of contributions to the Baudin monument. The fact is that at this present moment great uncertainty prevails at the *Palais de Justice* here, and the judges are at such a loss how to act—evidently expecting the new *mol d'ordre*—that they have actually postponed for the present giving judgment in two Press cases that have been tried before them lately. These are the *Tribune* for an article written by M. Lavertujon, and the *Courrier de l'Interieur* for some cutting remarks on the police. M. Jules Favre, who undertook the defence of the *Tribune*, whilst complaining of the energetic persecution of the Press with many biting expressions in his usual caustic manner, referred to the modification of the ministry, and expressed a hope "that the successor of M. Pinard might show greater leniency towards the Press, and perhaps even inaugurate a change in the system hitherto pursued by the Government with a persistency and vindictiveness worthy of a better cause."

The *Epoque* asserts that a new department for Press affairs is to be immediately organised by the new Minister of the Interior, and that M. Aglié Longla will be appointed as its chief.

The provincial Press has shown great activity of late. Among the new Liberal organs is the *Jura*, published in the department of that name, and the editor has received a letter of congratulation from M. Gréog, the newly elected member for the Jura in the Legislative Assembly. Another new paper is started at Limoges under the title of the *Libéral du Centre*. At Marseilles, too, several new papers have been launched, one of which, called the *Le Phare de Marseille*, is the creation of the indefatigable M. de Lesseps, and is edited by M. Camille Farey; another, called *Le Marseillais*, advocates pure democracy; and a new literary journal entitled *La République des Lettres* is edited by M. Cremieux. M. Clappier, proprietor of the *Nouveliste* of Marseilles, has received from the Prefect of the département promises of Government support in the shape of the official advertisements from the commencement of the new year, and has engaged as political director M. Léon Pelvey, formerly editor of the *Patrie*. The *Gironde* of Bordeaux announces a new paper to be called *La Gironde du Dimanche*, not as a weekly summary of its daily edition, but as a separate newspaper. The editor is M. Massicault, and the director-general, M. Gounouilhou.

The *Pays* contains the following mysterious item:—"One of the chief editors of one of the most reputed French journals is a female, whose real name belongs to the legitimist world, and was of universal celebrity in 1830." To this enigma another journal of this city gives the solution as follows:—"The offices of the paper in question are situated in the Rue des Prêtres, Saint Germain l'Auxerrois, and the feminine editor is no other than the daughter-in-law of a former minister of Charles X., one of those who signed the famous ordinance of July." Then, putting two and two together, we find the unknown quantity to be Madame de Peyronnet, who signs herself "Horace de Lagardie" in the *Journal des Débats*.

AVANT COURIER.

A new paper started by Henri de Péné, under the title of *Paris*, publishes a manuscript lithograph copy of a journal started by the political prisoners at Ste. Pelagie. It is conducted by M. Jules Vallés, and suggests the inference that journalists in gaol enjoy a freedom of the pen which their *confrères* out of gaol might envy.

POSTSCRIPT.

PARIS, Dec. 28.

The Tribunal of Commerce has prohibited M. Wittersheim from publishing a newspaper bearing the title *Moniteur*, that title being the exclusive property of M. Panckouke.

The paper which M. Wittersheim intended to bring out under that title, on the 1st of January, is the new official organ of the French Government.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, December 27.

Two members of the Prussian House of Representatives (which is now in session, though for the moment adjourned till after the holidays), have brought in a bill for the abolition of the restrictions that weigh so heavily on the Press. These gentlemen are Dr. Eberty and Herr Duncker, both well known as Liberals, and

the bill was most favourably received and referred to a special committee of the House selected *ad hoc*, to report on, as usual in such cases. In the preamble they state as their motive for the step "the necessity of abolishing the restrictions on the enjoyment of the fullest liberty of the Press, as accorded by the Prussian constitution;" after which the text of the bill runs as follows:—
 § 1. A special concession or permission is no longer required to exercise the trade of printer, bookseller, circulating library, reading rooms, or for the sale of newspapers, pamphlets, prints, books, or other emanations of the Press. § 2. The obligation hitherto in force of sending a copy of every newspaper, pamphlet, and book containing less than twenty sheets, to the local police authorities before publication, is hereby rescinded. § 3. The publisher of a newspaper or periodical is no longer bound to make a deposit of caution money; but all newspapers and periodicals must be published with the full name of the responsible editor. Only those individual persons who are in the full possession of their civil rights and are personally subject to the jurisdiction of the Prussian laws can undertake the duties of a responsible editor. § 4. The power of seizing or laying temporary embargo on printed matter, as well as the presses, type, forms, plates, and other materials and apparatus required or used in printing, hitherto vested in the Procurator Fiscal or his substitute is no longer permitted. § 5. All regulations and ordinances militating against the enactments contained in this law are rescinded.

In an editorial article the *Kasseler Zeitung* makes the naïve confession that during the period of its being the official organ of the Government of the Elector of Hesse it had managed to make itself so hated and generally unpopular, and that such an insuperable aversion and suspicion still attached to the very name, that though now conducted for more than two years under altered circumstances by a new editor, who loyally supports the present (Prussian) Government, it had been found impossible to conciliate the public and neutralise the stigma still attached to the name of the paper. Under these circumstances, public notice is given that the *Kasseler Zeitung* will be discontinued at the end of this year, and be replaced on and after New Year's-day by the *Neue Mittel-Deutsche Zeitung*, as a daily morning paper of increased size, giving its readers a correct and impartial account of the social and political events of the day, in calm and dispassionate language, without any party feeling, and in "objective representation." The principal point of the programme is stated to be the "greatness and power of Germany and the development and increase of its political relations, on the foundation of its present circumstances, brought about by historical events."

The *Zukunft*, a democratic Berlin daily paper, gave notice lately that its funds were exhausted, and that it should cease to appear at the end of this month, unless the further means of supporting it should be found by the party whose interests it so energetically advocates. This appeal appears to have not been made in vain; for since then it announces that it will be continued in the coming year, though only as an evening paper, the morning edition being discontinued, the price of subscription reduced from two and a half to one and a half dollars per quarter, and that Dr. Guido Weiss will retain his functions as chief editor.

Herr Gustav Hell, the editor of the *Altona Nachrichten*, has been accused before the District Court of insulting and libelling the King of Prussia in a light satirical article, superscribed "from Arcadia," and acquitted. I read the article at the time it appeared, and must confess I expected to hear of a heavy punishment.

The *Rheinische Zeitung* was confiscated by the police more than two years ago, the editor prosecuted and acquitted; the copies seized have now just been returned by decree of the Court. No wonder that the editor should appeal to the Prussian Parliament, as he does in his paper one day last week, and seriously impress on the members the necessity of their doing something to alleviate the sorrows of the Press.

A new satirical weekly was started lately at Berlin, under the name of *Miau*, the German equivalent for our caterwauling, but only reached its second number, and then suddenly stopped. It is now stated that a trial is impending over the head of the editor on the charge of *Majestäts-Beleidigung*, or offending the majesty of the King.

A petition has been presented to the Prussian House of Representatives from a female at Breslau, praying that Dr. Stein, the

editor of the *Breslauer Zeitung* be removed, and made harmless for the future, on the ground of "his continually sowing dissensions between God and man, and stirring up agitation and strife between sovereigns and their subjects." The reading of this petition was accompanied by bursts of hilarity on the part of the members, who appeared to be much amused with the quaintness of the petitioner.

The Newspaper Price Current for 1869, which is annually published by the postal department of the North German Confederation, has already appeared. It contains a list of the papers and their prices, which may be subscribed for through any of the post offices. The catalogue contains 2,968 journals and periodicals in the German language (of which 989 are political, 1,054 non-political, but subject to the duty, and 975 not subject to the duty), 593 in French, 430 in English (the dearest of which is the *Shipping Gazette*, which costs 55 dols. 8 groschens per annum), 17 in Spanish, 67 in Dutch, 67 in Russian, 34 in Swedish, 10 in Norwegian, and 31 in Danish.

BAVARIA.

MUNICH, Dec. 26.

The Press in this city is about to be increased by a new paper, under the high-sounding title of the *Hochdeutscher Postcourier*, specimen copies of which have already been sent out. The name of the publisher and proprietor is given as "Joann Zwyrilin," under which semi-pseudonym is meant the Baron von Zwiernlein, an annexed high Tory nobleman of great wealth, from Nassau, with a disordered intellectual state of health, having been for some time under medical treatment—and the most unbounded genuine and unadulterated hatred and contempt for Prussia, which renders it almost superfluous that the ex-Duke of Nassau should be a sleeping partner in the new concern. To judge from the style and contents of the specimen number, it is clear that in politics it supports the so-called "Radical Conservative-Legitimist party," a further guarantee of which is found in the person of the new editor, Herr Guttinger, who has already performed the same functions for a former organ of the National party.

As a further characteristic of our local Press, it may here be mentioned that Dr. J. Sigl, the present editor of the notorious *Volksboten*, has been convicted of having written a few years ago several articles in provincial journals concerning the Pope, the Catholic priesthood and schools, which called forth the anger of the Romish hierarchy in pamphlets and from the pulpit, all which he now repudiates, and has recanted with an energy and zeal that give rise to the supposition that he is labouring under mental aberration, as may be seen by his remarks on the lately beheaded murderer Monti, "who," he says, "before his execution, confessed that he had the misfortune four years ago to be seduced into becoming a Freemason, and only discovered too late the infamy (verruchtheit) of the brotherhood that plunged him into ruin."

FRIEDRICH.

SPAIN.

In our last we mentioned that the *Discusion* had been laid under criminal prosecution. The other Republican organ, *La Igualdad*, has also called down upon itself the rigours of the law. In its number of the 10th December it says:—

"At three o'clock yesterday morning a juez de primera instancia presented himself at our office, but the hour being so unreasonable he could not deliver the summons he carried. At nine last evening we had the pleasure of a visit from another of the same judicial functionaries, who, after asking for the director and editor of the *Igualdad*, proceeded to give us notifications respecting the major part of our edition of yesterday. There are now three criminal processes weighing upon us. In a few hours, doubtless, there will be more. Grave considerations present themselves in view of these circumstances. We recollect the events of 1864. At that period many Democrats, including the very Rivero, who is now Alcáde of Madrid, and who issues these writs against us, were imprisoned for Press offences. For the Government of to-day to proceed in like manner is to us incomprehensible. The step they have taken against our paper is in every respect bad policy, seeing that our remarks were justly founded on the distrust they have inspired by their acts. Unjust conduct towards the Press has always begun in this manner. That we to-day are the victims

confirms us in the idea that the Government are shortening the road towards the abyss. They will soon augment the number of the bad governments whom God deprives of understanding previous to their perdition. Are the vast series of Press persecutions which were rife in former times to begin again with us? If so, this guerdon is ample recompense for all our fatigues and labours! We are tranquil and strong in the consciousness of having only done our duty."

RUSSIA.

The discontinuance of the *Invalide* and the conversion of the two other official papers of the Russian Government into semi-demi, or even fractionally less, official organs is intended to put a stop to the anarchy which has long prevailed in the Government journalism of St. Petersburg. Now there exist three official papers—the *Invalide*, the *Northern Post* (both in Russian), and the *Journal de St. Petersbourg* (French)—respectively the organs of the War-office, the Home-office, and the Foreign-office. In addition there are some semi-official papers, edited by private persons and subsidized by certain departments of State, whose communications have to be inserted, and whose general directions as to the tone of the paper must of course be attended to. Of this category, two only can pretend to an importance, rendering them worthy of mention out of the country. The *Golos*, which is paid by the Ministry of Education for swallowing the Poles and Germans whole, and the *Brjjeviya Vedomosti* (*Exchange Gazette*), assisted by the post and telegraph-office for writing temperate and well-intentioned articles on the financial and general politics of the Empire. The different branches of the Administration being thus provided each with special means of authentic utterance, the system might have worked very well, if only the heads had pulled together. Unfortunately, however, no such thing as a Cabinet, in the constitutional sense of the term, exists in Russia. In all that appertains to his particular department each Minister is dependent upon the Sovereign himself. He must conform his action to the wishes of the monarch, to the idiosyncracies of the Imperial Chancellerie, that intermediate authority between majesty and Ministry, and perhaps to the tone of the Court in general; but he is comparatively free from the politics and doings of his colleagues. The consequence of this isolated position of the individual Ministers necessarily is that each endeavours to carry out his own ideas and strengthen his interest, regardless of the public and private interests of the other members of the council. But, however useful it may be for the Emperor to rely on different parties at one and the same time, the practice of admitting them simultaneously to a share in the State power had this deficiency, that it enabled them to write against each other in official and semi-official journals, the organs of their respective heads in office. Nor were the controversies indulged in by these hostile brethren always of a temperate kind. Especially on the Polish question—which the majority of the Ministers wish to see decided *à la Tartare*, no matter whether the Poles and the country they inhabit be ruined for ages to come, while the minority recommend less extreme measures—much animosity used to prevail. It is a fact, for instance, that the *Golos*, the paper co-operating with the Minister of Educational Affairs, who is a great enemy of the Poles, has been repeatedly confiscated by the Minister of the Interior, a more moderate politician, for denouncing the Polish policy of the latter. To prevent the recurrence of such incongruities, and to organize the Government Press on the ordinary European model, the *Invalide* will be discontinued, after an existence of some 50 years, and a *Monteur* established instead.—*Times' Correspondence*.

HUNGARY.

M. Konuh, editor of the *Hlas*, of Prague, has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment and a fine of 1,000 florins for seditious articles.

ITALY.

A new weekly, in the English tongue, has just been established in Florence, by the Messrs. Fairman, English and American bankers, who have issued the following prospectus:—"No such publication existing in our city, and the want of a properly managed English newspaper being strongly felt in this country,

we have decided upon establishing and publishing every week, *The Anglo-Italian Gazette*, an Anglo-American newspaper, published weekly in Florence, Italy. The first number will appear in November next. The title fully explains its object. The circulation will be firstly among the English and American residents in this country, then among those travelling in Italy and on the Continent generally. The principal bankers and hotels of Europe, America, &c., will receive a copy. We anticipate that the circulation will be very extensive, for the travelling public is numerous, and their friends at home are always desirous to follow their movements in print. It will contain the arrival and addresses of English and American, &c., travellers in the principal cities of Italy and the Continent. The latest telegrams and news of interest will be reported, and nothing will be left aside that will make *The Gazette* acceptable and readable. Its circulation being extensive not only in Italy, but also abroad, it will naturally be a most valuable channel for advertisements of all kinds and from all parts. The size of *The Gazette* will be that of the largest daily papers.

GIBRALTAR.

We talk largely enough about the liberty of the Press, and are at times rather given to sneer at those less fortunate than we in this respect; but it seems that the privileges we boast about so much are not enjoyed by all her Majesty's subjects. The proprietors of a certain newspaper published in Gibraltar, have received an official notice to the effect that comments on local events must not be given in the columns under their control. On what ground this conduct is to be justified remains to be seen, but meanwhile the fact remains that a censorship has been established.—*City Press*.

ALEXANDRIA.

An English paper has been started at Alexandria, under the title of the *Eastern Star*.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

There are now lying before us two papers, such as have rarely or never before lain on any other editorial table in this country, if in the world. One of them is the venerable official *Pekin Gazette*, which has been published for a thousand years, the first number of which was probably an exact counterpart of all its successors. The other is a number of a Japanese fortnightly, issued on the arrival of each American steamship at Yokohama. It has been published about eighteen months, and is sold for ten cents a copy.

The Chinese paper covers ten pages, each four inches wide by eight long, and has yellow covers, on which are printed its name and date in black and crimson inks. It is the only native paper for a population of 414,000,000 souls, who have for centuries been in some degree of contact with European influences, and who have a literature that is vaster in its dimensions than that of any other people. It is exclusively confined to official notices. The other is one of two papers started in Japan since that empire was opened by Commodore Perry's expedition. It is called the *News-paper of the World*. Instead of being confined like the *Gazette* to a barren record of official proceedings—it treats of agriculture, horticulture, navigation and the building of ships; the politics and condition of other countries, literature and general news of about 40,000,000 people. It contains a cut of the European horse and hog, a small picture of a British steam gun-boat, another of a somewhat similar craft, and a remarkably well executed representation, covering a whole half page, of the American Pacific mail steamship Great Republic. There is also a diagram that may be geographical, or sartorial, or may describe the method of cutting up a carcass of mutton. The pages are not numbered. Some are divided into unequal columns by lines. Some have great blocks of matter injected into the heart of the page.

The first impression obtained from these two papers is naturally one of gratified curiosity. But there is really more meat to them. They are representative of the condition and prospects of two empires with which we have recently come in contact, with which we are now transacting a great commerce, on which our influence is acting, and from which we are receiving influences whose future cannot be foretold. The nature of both these nations is partially mirrored in their publications. The Chinese, slow and

proud, and conservative, have made no progress in a thousand years. Their *Gazette* is engraved as it always has been.—*Phil. North American*.

UNITED STATES.

•NEW YORK, Dec. 14th.

The event of the month which I have to record is the assassination of H. Rives Pollard, the editor of *Southern Opinion*. The crime (for crime it is, however it may be glossed over, and whatever provocation or other extenuating circumstance may be adduced) took place at Richmond on the forenoon of the 24th Nov. There can be no question that the article in *Southern Opinion*, which appeared on the 21st of November, and gave rise to the tragedy, was of a most slanderous nature, reflecting, as it did, on the private character of a young lady of unimpeachable conduct, the daughter of Mr. William H. Grant, tobaccoist. It seems that on the Monday succeeding its publication the brother of the young lady called upon Pollard, and demanded of him whether he had written the article. Pollard replied in the affirmative, and, on being pressed, refused to retract, whereupon Grant challenged him, proposing that they should fight on the spot. Pollard refused to do so, and, before leaving the office, Grant warned him that he would shoot him on the first opportunity. The threat was reported to the police, who kept a watch on Grant's movements. On the fatal morning, Mr. Pollard, as usual, left his residence on the Grove-road, with a companion, J. M. Hanna, in a carriage, and arrived in front of his office, Main and Fourteenth streets, at about nine o'clock. After both had alighted, Mr. Hanna remaining behind to fasten the reins of the horse, Pollard advanced towards his office-door, and had not reached it when a load of buckshot fired from a third story opposite, out of a double-barrelled shot gun, entered his body. He fell on his face, and instantly expired. In the fall severe gashes were inflicted upon the forehead. His body was taken up and borne to the second story of the building, where it was laid out on a mattress in his editorial room. It was then viewed by Coroner Little, who decided to hold an inquest at twelve o'clock. Several policemen, having ascertained that the shot had been fired from the opposite building, hastened up the steps and forced the door of a room, and found young Grant there. They then secured him, and when they took him to the street he was cheered by the multitude. It must be explained, as some excuse for this conduct, that *Southern Opinion* has lately been carried on in anything but a respectable manner. Pollard's body was, later in the day, conveyed to his residence, and, as a sample of the state of public feeling, in the teeth of all the facts, the coroner's jury returned a verdict that the deceased came to his death by the hands of some person unknown." Mr. Hanna (who has himself had five previous hairbreadth escapes of being shot) announces that he will carry on *Southern Opinion*. It is to be feared that personal rencontres will be less frequent if editors persist in the abusive style towards each other which was once common, but had happily become quite exceptional till lately—and then only indulged in by journals of a low stamp. It may, perhaps, not startle you to hear Mr. Greeley, of the *Tribune*, replying to the *World* in the following terms:—"That the above assertions are utterly false we do most certainly know. That they are deliberate lies, uttered in the interest of a great public crime, we most assuredly believe." But it is lamentable to see such a paper as the *Round Table* resort to such coarse language as the following:—"That most childish and fluffy of suburban prints, the *Brooklyn Union*, cries with pleasure because patted on the back by its ridiculous namesake, the *Church Union*. Approbation from Sir Hubert Stanley with a vengeance! There is certainly a similarity of tone and culture between these delectable sheets which accounts for their slobbering sympathy; and, what with their mixing up the City of Churches and the union of churches, their jack-knife and wooden-nutmeg flavour, their curious 'editorials' which read like the productions of evangelical young but-termen and greengrocers, and their common puffery of sensual and sensation preachers, either might readily be mistaken for the other. It is, perhaps, not surprising that a journal whose cultivated taste is dissatisfied with the *Round Table* should be charmed with the *Brooklyn Union*; but it is both astonishing and funny that the latter paper should be idiotic enough to boast of the fact."

The *Iliad*, published in Homer city, has been, I think, men-

tioned in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* more than once. Well, it will be heard of no more, for the office has been mobbed and entirely gutted. Mr. Blackburn, the editor, has given notice of the destruction in the *Clairborne Advocate*.

The office of the *Cecil Whig*, at Elkton, Maryland, was destroyed by fire on the 26th of October, but immediate arrangements were made for the continuance of the paper.

The Rosicrucians have started a new monthly paper at Rochester, with the name of the *Illuminati*.

The *New York Sun* recently had an amusing article on "The Stone Jug," the newspaper department of the Post-office, commencing with the following description:—"Whoever has strolled through the New York Post-office has found himself at some time in the department known as the 'Stone Jug.' There is a tradition concerning which 'the memory of man runneth not to the contrary,' that the institution was once a police-office, and that it derived its name from some such source. However, it is now the principal newspaper distributing room in the Post-office, and as such bears an important part in the distribution of the mails. The Jug, with its two windows facing on Liberty-street, presents anything but a lively appearance. It is dingy without and dingy within. Even the sun shines through dingy looking windows down upon dingy looking tables. In fact, the Jug looks like an apartment left out in the cold, waiting to be introduced to the main office."

Under the head of "County Newspapers, how to manage them" the *Advertisers' Gazette* gives some very good advice to provincial newspaper printers. The following hints may be useful to country editors in England:—

"As to editorials, if you have had no experience in writing them, and are doubtful as to your ability, take a leader of the *World* or *Democrat*, if you belong to that party, or of the *Tribune* or *Times*, if you belong to the other, read it carefully, and then state it to your wife or a friend, and ask them if they see any objection to it. Argue the point, and when the impression is still fresh in your mind, write it out. You will find it will make a very fair editorial, and it is your own. Lawyer Jones might have written a better one, but then he would control the political course of the paper, and you would not." . . . "Your local department should be at least one-third of all your reading matter, even if you have to send back the Queen of Spain to pi, instead of Pau. Whether a man more or less is killed in Arkansas is of no consequence to your readers, but it is of interest to know that Deacon Holmes has killed the biggest hog of the season, weighing 626 pounds. Deacon Holmes immediately comes in and buys half a dozen copies of your paper to send down to Connecticut. 'They don't raise no sich big hogs daown there, I guess; leastways, they didn't when I was a boy.' You have made a friend of Deacon Holmes for life. That's the first time his name has ever been in print. Market reports should be very carefully done, and then carefully read. It won't do to have all the old farmers jeering at your markets because 'oats' are printed 'cats' as once happened to a now defunct journal in Troy."

The new papers for the month are the *Trumpet*, at Bonneville, Connecticut, the *Gazette* at Lynnvile, Iowa, and the *Palladium*, at Renton Harbour, Michigan.

SOL.

THE BORDER EDITOR.—The editor of the *Owyhee Avalanche*, by way of describing his agreeable vocation, as conductor of a frontier paper, makes the following interesting reflections:—"Oh, the felicity of editing a paper! Charming, agreeable, in a horn! Fascinating, attractive occupation, but so difficult to appreciate. How nicely and smoothly one gets along without an 'onpleasantness!' For instance, in a recent issue we referred directly to a ruffian known as Captain Prescott, and incidentally to a guerilla named Al Cage. We did this in justice to ourselves and the community at large. The other day, while quietly seated in our sanctum, taxing our brain for more copy, in response to the everlasting cry of the 'devil,' the two above-named villains, one of them armed with a hatchet, and the other with a bowie-knife of large dimensions, made a violent attack upon our person. The only alternative was was to fight or die. We accordingly seized a large knife, about two feet long, used for cutting paper, and bled our assailants pretty freely. They sued for mercy. We spared their worthless lives, and told them to dust, and they got up and dusted. We would take this occasion to state that if they or any one else attack us with the intention of doing us bodily harm,

we will shoot them dead in their tracks, or cut their throats from ear to ear."

"The *New York Commercial Advertiser*, under the head 'Country Newspapers,' makes the following mention of a Chicago enterprise:

"Four or five years ago, Mr. A. N. Kellogg, of Chicago, commenced to print the inside of country newspapers in that city. The plan seemed to take, and he now prints one hundred and three, located in all the States of the North-west. So that Democratic papers, Republican papers, and all sorts of papers, go to their readers with the same matter on two of their pages. Of course, they are necessarily all of a size, and the matter they contain of a neutral character."

"There are more things in the 'country inside' business than are dreamt of in the *Advertiser's* philosophy. Instead of all papers, of whatever politics, 'going to their readers with the same matter' they go with political matter exactly suited to the political temper of those readers, whether ultra Republican, Copperhead, Democratic, bluely Conservative, or blankly Neutral; and instead of all being the same size, the area of your 'country inside' varies from six columns to nine. Mr. Kellogg prints 'insides' or 'outsides' as preferred, for one hundred and eleven papers. These are divided into three principal classes, known as Republican, Democratic, and Neutral—the contents of the three being entirely different. These classes are again divided up according to size—six, seven, eight, or nine columns—and it is so arranged that two papers, printed at the same town, of the same politics and identical in size, might obtain their first side of Mr. Kellogg and be as unlike as if ground out at two different offices. Such is the case, we believe, in one or two instances. Mr. Edson, the editor in charge of making up these periodical 'succedanea,' does his work with such tact that a mistake rarely ever occurs. Let a campaign meeting be held in Court House square, and the next morning it is duly chronicled in your 'country insides,' coloured in each according to the predilections of its readers, though Kellogg makes it a point never to do any downright lying for partisans of either stripe. In this way he doubtless exercises a quiet influence for good, since, if editors are left to the machinations of their own hearts, they are altogether likely to turn out more or less falsehood."—*Inside Track*.

There is a newspaper in Maine which bears the remarkable title of the *Presque Isle Loyal Sunrise*.

Mr. Henry Sedley, the editor of the *Round Table*, has purchased the entire property in that paper for the Round Table Association, and announces some new features with the fifth volume.

The *Louisville Journal* has been consolidated with the *Louisville Courier*, under the title of the *Courier and Journal*. Mr. George D. Prentice has been the chief director of the *Journal* since its inception in 1830; but, although he is apparently still connected with the new paper, Henry Watterson is announced as the editorial manager.

Mr. Frederick Whympier, an Englishman, who has just published in London his tour in the French and German wine regions, is appointed editor of the *Alta Californian*.

Mr. Wilkes, editor of the *Spirit of the Times*, has sailed for London, for a three months' tour in Europe, for the benefit of his health.

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—DEC. 8.

(Sittings at Nisi Prius in Middlesex, before Mr. Justice SMITH and a Common Jury.)

TULLY V. CORDINGLEY.

This was an action to recover damages for an alleged libel published in the *West London Advertiser*. The plaintiff was superintendent of the London Gas Company, and he had also filled some of the parochial offices. What was complained of was a letter referring to parish matters, and it was said to be the last of a series, the whole of which the plaintiff thought likely to bring him into disrespect.

Mr. D. Seymour, Q.C., for the plaintiff, in the course of the case, said that editors of newspapers had very serious duties to perform; but sometimes it happened that libellous matter was inserted.

Mr. Justice Smith said that his experience was that editors were themselves generally very careful. The libels were usually found under the head of "Correspondence."

Mr. Serjeant T. Atkinson, for the defendant, said that his client was sorry that the plaintiff had suffered any annoyance, and he would take care that there should be no repetition of the offence.

A verdict was then taken for the plaintiff, by consent. Damages, 40s.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—DEC. 7.

(After Term Nisi Prius Sittings at Westminster, before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE and a Special Jury.)

MORRIS V. RALLING.

This was an action for libel. The defendant pleaded not guilty. Mr. Coleridge, Q.C., and Mr. Philbrick were counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Serjeant Parry and Mr. Bridge appeared for the defendant.

The plaintiff in this case was a medical man, practising at Colchester, and the defendant was the proprietor of the *Essex Chronicle*, published in that borough. The libel arose out of the election of Mr. Marslake for the borough of Colchester in 1867, and was contained in a parody of "The House that Jack Built," with coloured illustrations of the parties, published on a large sheet of paper. The circumstances referred to were purely local, and the composition contained nothing worthy of quotation. The defendant refused to apologise, and had forced the action on. The plaintiff was still ready to accept an apology.

The Lord Chief Justice asked why it was not done. The defendant had no right to placard the plaintiff or any man in a grotesque form, although it would perhaps have been better if he had taken no notice of it.

Mr. Serjeant Parry said it was nothing more than what appeared every week in *Punch*.

The Lord Chief Justice.—But *Punch* is privileged. (Laughter.)

Mr. Serjeant Parry.—I should be sorry to say anything to the contrary.

The Lord Chief Justice.—We have all appeared there more or less.

Mr. Serjeant Parry.—I am sure your lordship never appeared there except in a complimentary manner.

The Lord Chief Justice.—I once saw myself there; and if I believed I could have appeared in so ruffianly a form I should have been very much ashamed of myself. Plaintiff no doubt would have acted wisely to have laughed at this publication, but, nevertheless, if a person chooses to ridicule another the least he can do is to apologise.

Before the conclusion of the plaintiff's evidence,

Mr. Serjeant Parry said he was instructed by his client to say that he had no desire to do anything to injure the plaintiff, but that it was done in the heat of the election, without intending to annoy.

The plaintiff accepted the apology, and with such damages as would carry costs.

ROLLS COURT.—DEC. 12.

In a case of *Daw v. Eley*, in this Court, the issue being as to the priority of an invention, Mr. Collett, the solicitor for the plaintiff, addressed an anonymous letter, on the merits of his client's patent cartridge, to the editor of the *Volunteer Service Gazette*, which was duly published. The Master of the Rolls made the following remarks on the impropriety of the proceeding and the power and duty of the Court to prevent it:—"It is obvious that the principle is quite established in all these cases. The principle is that no person must do anything with a view to pervert the sources of justice or the proper flow of justice; in fact, they ought not to make any publications or to write anything which would induce the Court, or which might possibly induce the Court or the jury, the tribunal that will have to try it, to come to any conclusion other than that which is to be derived from the evidence in the cause between the parties, and certainly they ought not to prejudice the minds of the public beforehand, by mentioning circumstances relating to the case. Now, if that is done with the intention of perverting the ends of justice, there is no question that the Court could stop it, and very often it will

judge for itself what are the fair inferences to be derived from the publications which appear. But it must also go beyond this. It must stop the publication of these things where the evident result would be to affect the administration of justice, though that might not have been the direct intention of the person who did it."

CONSOLIDATED CHAMBER, DUBLIN.—Dec. 8.

(Before Mr. Baron HUGHES.)

VALENTINE BLAKE, JUNIOR, v. ALFRED SHERIDAN.

The defendant is the proprietor of the *Mayo Examiner*, and the present action was brought for the publication of alleged slanderous words complained of in an action also brought by plaintiff against Mr. George Henry Moore, M.P., for an alleged slander spoken of plaintiff in the course of a speech made by Mr. Moore previous to the late election for the county Mayo. The words complained of were:—"Mr. Valentine Blake, junior, has been prostituting his position as secretary to the grand jury among road-jobbers and others depending on his benevolence." Mr. Jordan, as counsel on behalf of Mr. Sheridan, now sought to plead that he did not publish a libel of plaintiff, that it was not published in the defamatory sense imputed, and a justification. Leave granted.

THE BELFAST ELECTION PETITION.—An application on behalf of the petitioners in this matter was made to the Court of Common Pleas in Ireland, for attachments to issue against the publishers of the *Northern Whig*, the *Northern Star*, and the *Ulster Examiner*, for printing and publishing articles commenting on the petition filed in the Court against the return of Mr. Thomas McClure, on the grounds that the articles complained of are calculated seriously to interfere with the proceedings in a court of justice touching the pending petition, and that the publishing of the same is a contempt of court.

Mr. M'Donogh, Q.C., appeared in support of the motion for the attachments.

Mr. Butt, Q.C., was counsel for the *Northern Star*; Mr. M'Loughlin for the proprietor of the *Northern Whig*.

The motion was adjourned to the sittings of the Court after the Christmas holidays.

AN application was made in the Rolls Court lately, on behalf of Mr. Roebuck, to commit the printer and publisher of one of the Sheffield papers for having published extracts from a bill in a pending suit, in which Mr. Roebuck's name was freely used. His lordship characterised the proceedings as a gross contempt of court, and ordered three apologies to be inserted in the offending journal, the proprietors to pay the costs of the motion.

Correspondence.

THE "ENGLISH MERCURIE" AGAIN!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—It is only a few months since I protested against the perpetuation of the "vulgar error" by journals of intelligence and standing, and now again up crops the impudent impostor last month in a paper which ought to know better, the *Printers' Register*. "We believe the first newspaper published in London was issued in July, 1588." In vain did Mr. Watts detect and expose the forgery, if newspaper editors and writers will persist in ignoring his discovery.—Yours, &c., S. L. J.

Our Monthly Necrology.

SAMUEL LUCAS.

THE death was announced on the 1st ult. of Mr. Samuel Lucas, a gentleman whose name is well known in connection with periodical literature. He was educated at Queen's College, Oxford, where he took his B.A. degree in 1840. In 1841 he gained the Newdegate prize for an English essay, "The Sandwich Island," and in 1845 the Chancellor's prize for an essay, "The Causes and Consequences of National Revolutions among the Ancients and the Moderns compared."

He was the first editor, and in part the founder also, of the *Press*

newspaper, which he conducted with ability and vigour in its early days, when he had, among others, Mr. Disraeli and Lord Stanley as contributors. It was his work in connection with the *Press* which led to the offer made to him about ten years ago of the post of stamp distributor for Derbyshire. This post he declined, however, as he had recently undertaken the editorship of *Once a Week*, which he conducted for five years or more with great success, owing probably to the good faith with which, in spite of every inducement to lighten his own work by employing a clique or "staff" of writers, he threw his columns open to the best contributions, from whatever quarter they might come.

He was a contributor to several of the best quarterly and monthly journals; his pen was not seldom to be detected in *Punch*, and he was one of that genial and pleasant party who used to gather around the weekly "Punch dinner" in Bouverie-street when Thackeray and Leech were in all their health and strength.

He was the author of several important historical and political pamphlets, and of a work which is as much philosophical as historical, called "Surveys on the Main-Stream of History," which alone would serve to stamp him as a man of great original powers.

Mr. Lucas wrote and edited other works, and his facile and graceful pen was seldom or never idle, until ill health following speedily on the failure of his *Shilling Magazine*, forced him to retire into the country and to abandon literary work.

A more kind, genial, and courteous gentleman never lived than Samuel Lucas, and we could easily add many examples of his readiness to lend a helping hand to young and struggling writers in whom he could see promise of literary fruit.

Mr. Lucas has left a widow to whom he was married in 1852.

Home Subjects.

THE *Illustrated Sporting News* has ceased to exist.

A FIRMAN has been granted for a new English paper in Constantinople, to be called the *Levant Times*.

A new dramatic paper has appeared lately, with the title of the *Stage*.

The *Western Counties Daily Herald*, a Conservative penny daily, has been started at Plymouth.

The *Bradford Observer* is now issued daily, making the second daily paper in Bradford.

The *Morning Summary*, a new morning paper, after struggling to aid Conservatism, expired on Wednesday, December 2nd, aged three weeks.

"BELL'S LIFE IN LONDON" is now published twice a week, namely, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, "in consequence of the increasing interest in sporting matters."

THE total daily circulation of the newspapers of Berlin amounts to no more than 105,000 copies; while that of Vienna is under 90,000 copies.

THE price of the *Weekly Dispatch*, which describes itself as "the oldest Liberal paper in the world," will be reduced on the 8th of January to twopence. It is said to have passed into the hands of Mr. S. O. Beeton.

THE PERIODICAL WORLD.—The announcements for the new year of additions to our periodicals are *Britannia*, edited by Mr. A. Beckett, and *Under the Crown*, a magazine to be written by office bearers, who are at the same time literary men.

THE Queen, on the recommendation of Mr. Disraeli, granted a pension of £100 per annum to Mrs. S. O. Hall, in consideration of her long and useful services as an authoress, and a contributor to both newspaper and periodical literature.

No one will acknowledge the authorship of the "Girl of the Period" articles in the *Saturday Review*. Some time since, Miss Edwards, the novelist, repudiated them (we must confess we never suspected her), and now another eminent female novelist has the credit of having written them.

THE new penny weekly Conservative paper announced in the last No. of the *Newspaper Press* as forthcoming, made its appearance on the 12th ult., under the title of the *Blue Budget*. It is published at 16, Catherine-street, and presents a very respectable appearance.

THE *Cosmopolitan* says: "While the proprietor of the *Athenæum*, Sir Wentworth Dilke, has been defeated at Wallingford, his son,

Mr. C. W. Dilke, the author of 'Greater Britin,' has defeated Dr. Russell, of the *Times*, at Chelsea; and Mr. Eastwick, a contributor to the *Athenæum*, has won at Falmouth."

AMONGST the dramatic novelties of the season, we notice a new adaptation of Goëthe's romantic poem of "Faustus," by Mr. J. T. Burgess, the editor of the *Leamington Spa Courier*. It has been produced with new effects, by the Shakspearian Dramatic Company, in that fashionable watering place with great success.

"BELL'S NEWS" is the name of a new penny weekly paper, combining news with tales, &c., after the manner of the *Weekly Budget*. We fancy we have heard the name before—some twelve years ago, or more. The first number appeared on the 5th of December.

"WILL O' THE WISP."—We understand that the services of Mr. John Proctor, the well-known artist, whose political cartoons in that journal during the elections excited so much interest, and whose spirited illustrations brought *Judy* so prominently forward, have been exclusively retained by the proprietors of *Will o' the Wisp*.

ON AN EDITOR'S CONSCIENCE.—The *Louisville Democrat* announces that that journal has been sold to a new proprietor. In the same number Mr. Harvey, the retiring editor, takes leave. He says, "The worst sin I have on my conscience is helping to make great men out of very small material."

NEW EAST END PAPER.—Four months since, we gave a list of the existing papers of the Eastern districts. We are requested to add to the list the *East End Recorder*, a halfpenny weekly journal, started on the 22nd of August, with its head quarters at Bow. We believe, however, we did mention it under its original title, the *Bow and Old Ford Gazette*.

A WRITER in the *Leisure Hour* calculates that a copy of the *Times*, with its full supplement, contains about 20,000 lines, or 200,000 words, and is equal to a printed octavo volume of 500 pages. The most rapid writing of a lawyer's clerk, if he wrote for ten hours a-day, would not be able to transcribe it in less than a fortnight.

THE money needed for completing the memorial to Leigh Hunt has been collected, and Mr. Durham will proceed at once to finish his design. The inscription adopted by the committee is the line from "Abu ben Adhem:" "Write me as one that loves his fellow-men"—a phrase which, standing by itself, has no meaning whatever. Surely it would be better to leave the name Leigh Hunt to tell its own story to a passer-by.

It is said that a pension of £100 a year on the Civil List granted by the Queen, on the recommendation of Mr. Disraeli, to Mr. J. F. Neilson, "in consideration of his eminence and distinguished services as a Parliamentary reporter," was declined; and the proprietors of the *Times* have awarded to Mr. Neilson, in addition to his salary, an annuity equal in amount to the proposed pension, as a reward for his long services on their staff.

A CONTEMPORARY calls attention to the singular fact that the Dublin correspondents of the leading London Liberal papers are themselves Conservatives. Thus the correspondent of the *Times* is the editor of the *Dublin Daily Express*; the correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* is the editor of *Saunders' News Letter*; the correspondent of the *Morning Post* is the editor of the *Evening Mail*; and the correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* is his brother, the sub-editor of the *Evening Mail*.

THE LATE WILLIAM WALLACE FYFE.—Mr. Disraeli, just before quitting office, ordered a donation from "Her Majesty's Royal Bounty" to be granted to Miss Barbara Wallace Fyfe, of Nottingham, in consideration of the distinguished merits and numerous and valuable contributions to literature, general science, and scientific agriculture of her late father, Mr. William Wallace Fyfe, who at the time of his death was editor of the *Notts Guardian*.

REDUCTION OF POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—On the 1st January and thenceforward, the postage (British and United States combined) chargeable on newspapers posted in this country and addressed to the United States of America, and whether forwarded by British mail packet or by private ship, will be reduced from 2d. to 1d. for each newspaper not exceeding four ounces in weight, with 1d. additional for every further weight of four ounces. This postage must be paid in advance by means of postage stamps. No further charge will be made on delivery of the newspapers.

"THE GLASGOW HERALD."—The proprietors of this journal, having purchased a spacious block of buildings between Buchanan-street and Mitchell-street, including the halls known as the Monteith Rooms, have erected on the site new and most commodious premises, in which they have placed two of Hoe's eight-cylinder printing machines, capable of turning out 32,000 impressions in an hour—a power much exceeding that of any newspaper in Scotland, and with the exception of London, only exceeded by the machinery of one other journal in the kingdom. They entered upon the new premises on the 9th of November. They have also made arrangements for the introduction of the telegraphic wires into the new offices, by which they will be brought into instant communication with their reporters and correspondents in London and other parts of the United Kingdom.

A CLERGYMAN'S OPINION OF NEWSPAPERS.—The *Stalybridge Reporter* gives an account of a tea party held in that town, on Saturday, November 14th, when the Rev. William Hefill, vicar of St. Mark's, Dunkinfield, occupied the chair, and in the course of the evening fell foul of the newspaper Press. An address by Mr. Murphy followed, and the rev. gentleman again gently rebuked the conductors of the newspaper Press for their lying propensities, although he had got so used to them that he took no notice. They lived by their lying and rascality, and were as lousy, rotten, and disgraceful a set of men as were to be found. They were devoid of sense, decency, manners, and all idea of respectability. They would put any mortal thing in their papers to make them sell, and were such a set of monstrous wretches, and told such abominable lies, that they were a disgrace to common manhood. If they began to tell the truth, he, for one, should suspect there was some trick afloat, and he advised his audience to buy no more of their lying dirty rags.

YOUNG Turkey, bent on propagandism against the policy of the Porte, found it necessary to have a European organ at some point where no arm from Constantinople could reach it. Paris was the first choice of the projectors of the journal; but their desire for political freedom of speech obliged them to remove to London, where the *Mukhbir*—a journal published in the Turkish language, translated extracts from which often appear in *Public Opinion*—was established, smuggled copies of which made great sensation in Constantinople. But the editor of the *Mukhbir*—Ali Suavi Effendi, who is described as a lawyer and ecclesiastic; a man of good attainments in history, literature, law, and theology—proved too moderate for the ultra-liberal movers in the enterprise, who withdrew their support and left the journal to a speedy death. In its stead they set up the *Hurriyet*—meaning *Liberty*—under the editorship of a Turkish gentleman recently Director-General of Ports and editor of a suppressed popular paper. He gives to it a tone violent enough to satisfy his supporters, but likewise so violent as to forfeit the attention which the former journal had come to command.

Notes and Queries.

TOM AND JERRY.—The story is an old one; it referred to Theodora Hook. W.H.—1.—Mr. Henry A. Burette was the special correspondent of the *Standard* with the Abyssinian Expedition. 2. "Manhattan."

AN ASPIRANT.—All contributions to the NEWSPAPER PRESS are paid for according to their value and interest. Send a specimen of the proposed series.

SEARCH AND FIND.—Nearly thirty years ago Mr. Peter Lund Simmonds, then of Chichester, projected a work to be called "The History and Statistics of the British and Foreign Newspaper Press," to be brought out by subscription in two volumes at one guinea, but the idea was not carried out. In 1811, James Savage, Librarian of the London Institution, published a small pamphlet, entitled "An Account of the London Daily Papers, and the Manner in which they are Conducted," but it contained very little information. The only "books" on the subject are F. Knight Hunt's "Fourth Estate," (2 vols. Bogue, Fleet-street), and Andrews' "History of British Journalism," (2 vols. Bentley). See, also, Nicholls' "Literary Anecdotes," Timperley's "Dictionary of Printers and Printing," Dr. Nathan Drake's "Essays on Periodical Publications," and Cuheval Clarigny's "Histoire de la Presse en Angleterre et aux Etats unis."

Obituary.

LUCAS, SAMUEL, on the 1st ult., one of the early editors of the *Press* newspaper.

BANKRUPT.

FAIRBRIE, ALEXANDER, Manchester, reporter.

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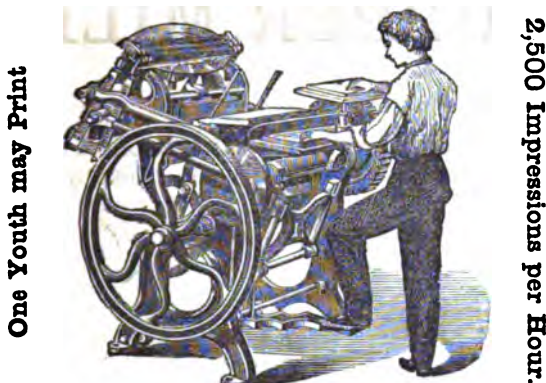
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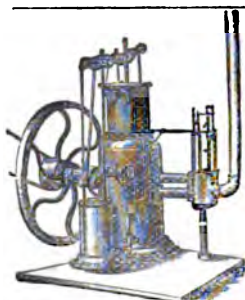
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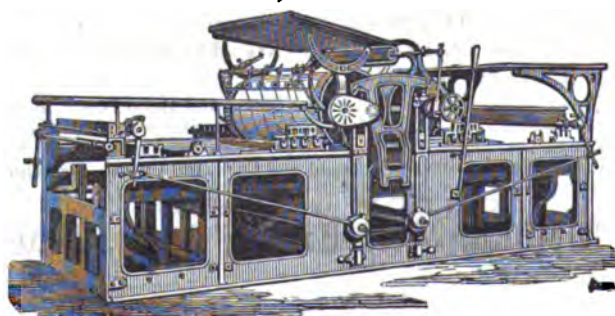
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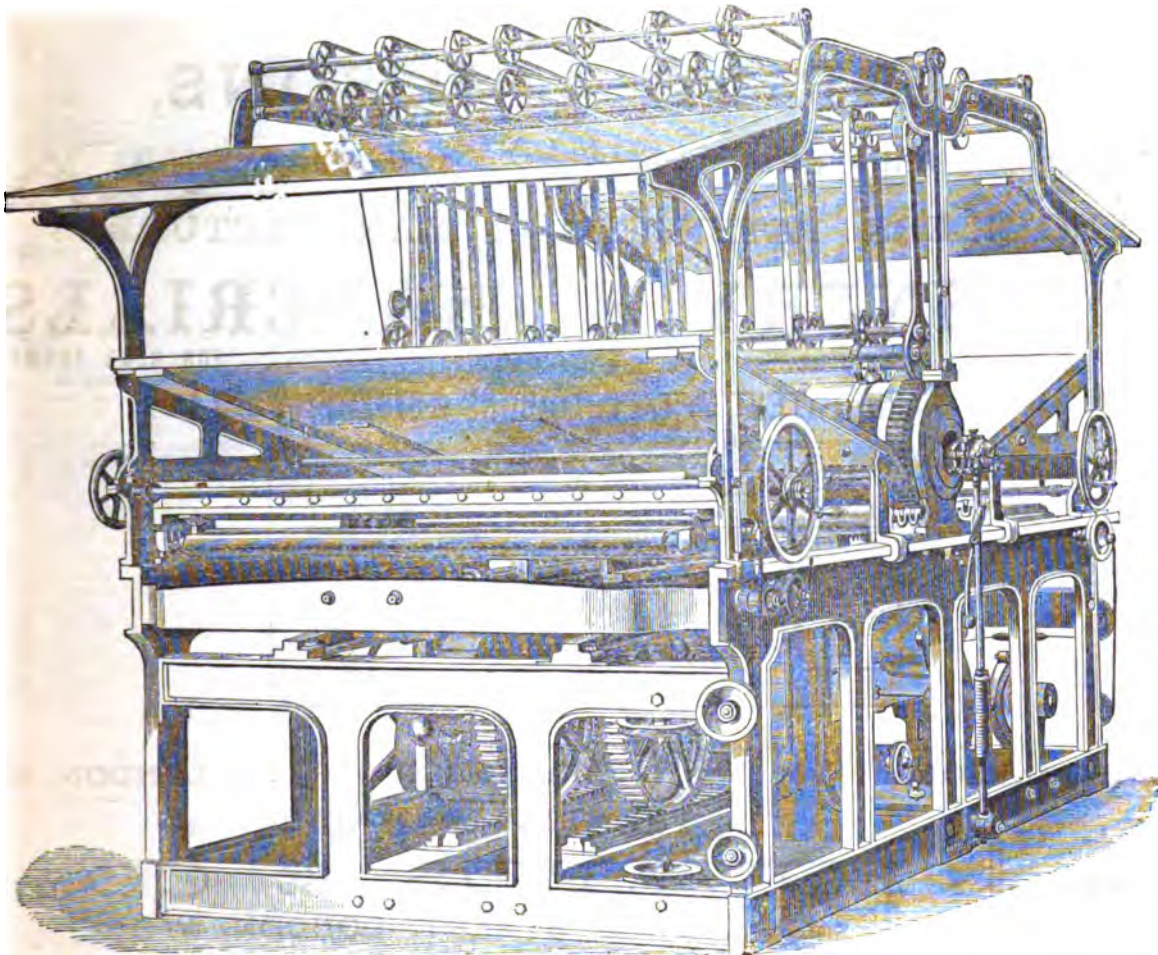
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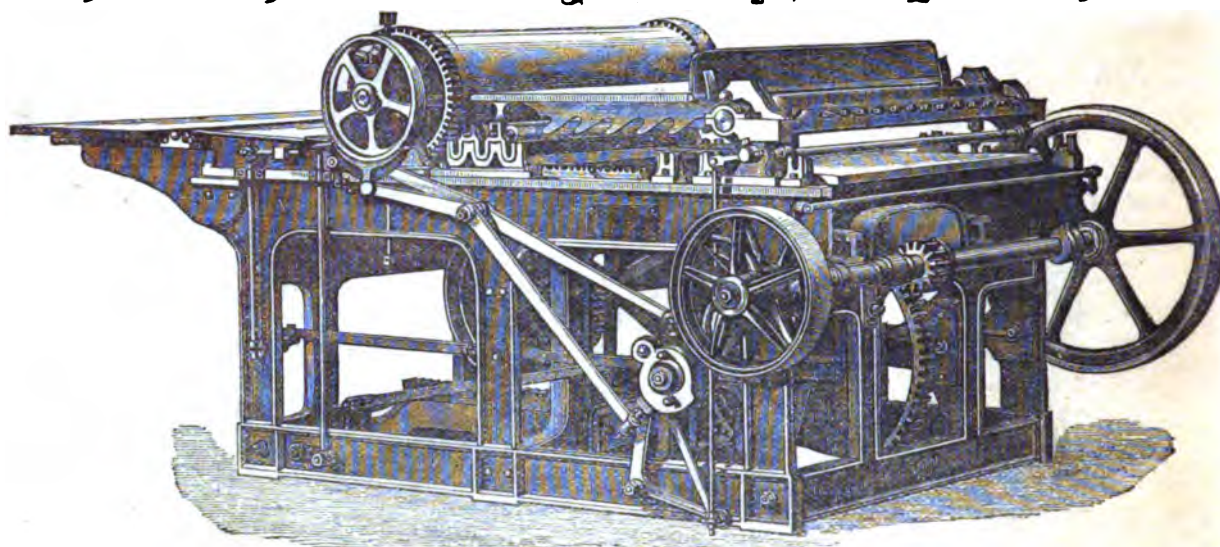
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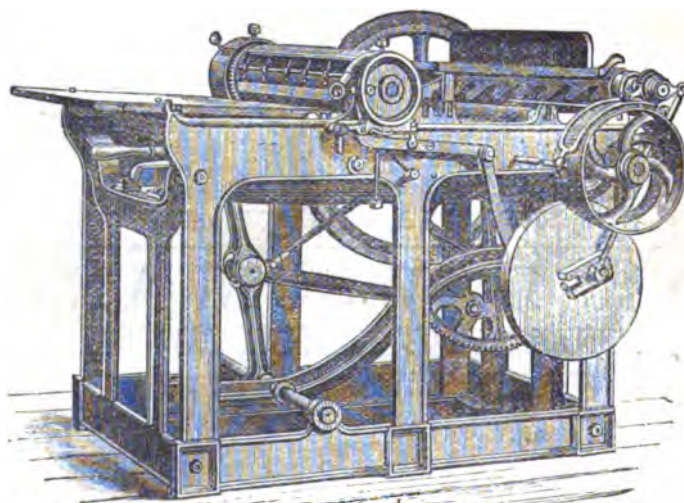
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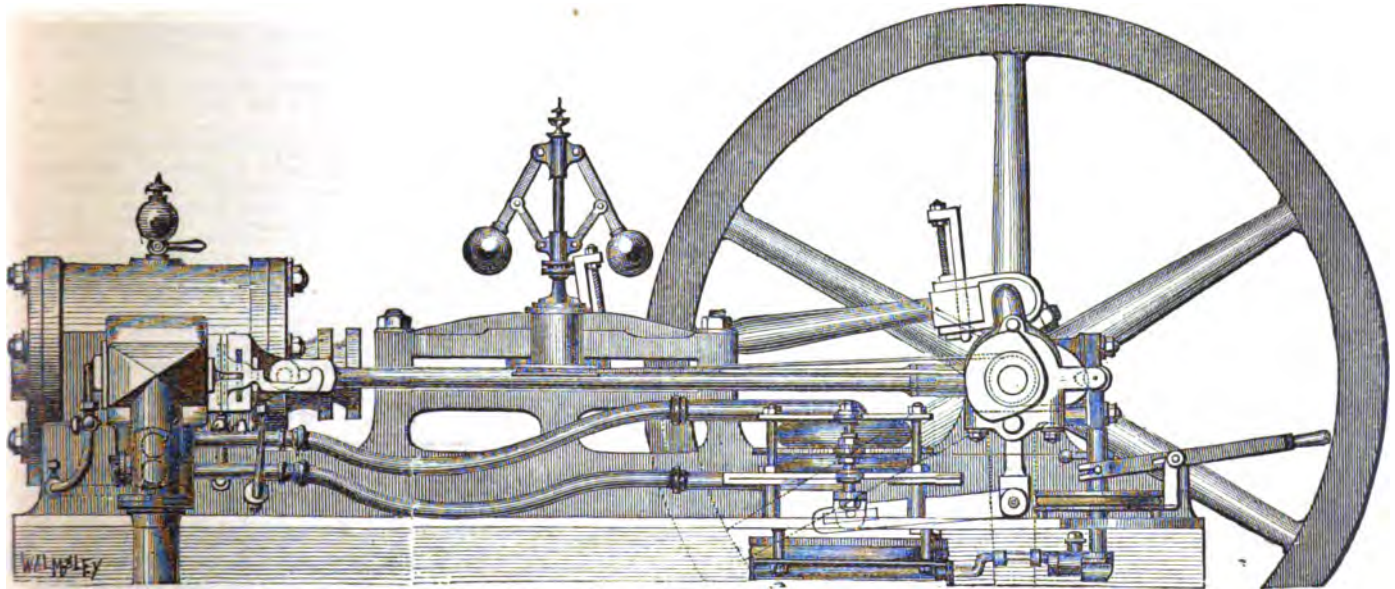
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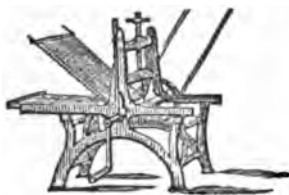
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If the Provincial Newspaper Proprietors' Association have done nothing very brilliant in its past career, it has, at all events, the merit of having maintained a nucleus of the leading proprietors round which the general community might rally in times of doubt or difficulty. Thus it gave to Sir Colman O'Loughlin material and valuable support in the promotion of his Libel Bill, and now it has saved the Press from being found unprepared when it is called upon to assume new responsibilities and duties; for although the Press Association is an entirely distinct body, it issued, we believe, from conferences of the older society. The constitution which we were enabled to give in our last number appears to be based on sound principles, and the rules directed to practical purposes. We take no objection to the exclusion of non-registered papers. Our readers are fully aware of our views on the subject of registration, but, so long as the obnoxious system is law, we think the Association has done wisely in recognising it, and lending its power to ensure its just and equitable enforcement.

We have no doubt that the Association will be found equal to the demands upon it, and fully capable of handling the new order of things.

It may be a matter of so small importance as to be worthy of a very few words, to call attention to a growing tendency on the part of our leading journals to a certain kind of affectation, which we know to be distasteful to the more refined portion of their readers, who are the very class to give a preference to an unambiguous, straightforward style. It has become the fashion among leader writers lately to commence a sentence in this wise: "An evening contemporary has asserted," &c.; "A usually well-informed provincial journal gives the following item of intelligence;" "A weekly paper, supposed to express the opinion of the Evangelical party announces," &c.; "A contemporary, generally believed to be the mouthpiece of the Right Hon. the President of the Board of Trade, says" so and so. Now, why this circumlocution? What grace or strength does it lend either to a paragraph or even a refuting article? Why not, in plain English style, say, "The *Globe* has asserted," &c.; "The *Manchester Examiner* gives the following item;" "The *Record* announces;" or "The *Morning Star* says" so and so? It is a mere matter of taste, but there is just the possibility of a risk that it may become exaggerated into an absurdity. Most of us are old enough to remember the origin of that sickly style adopted by writers of

letters to the editor on most common place matters, commencing—"Sir,—My attention has been called to an article which appeared in your paper of," &c. For goodness sake, let us avoid such snobbery, and write to the purpose, and without such unmeaning affectation.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

V.—RIGHT OF PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CONDUCT OF CLERGYMEN.

THE case of *Walker v. Brogden*, in the Court of Common Pleas, May, 1865, was argued on demurrer to one of the defendant's pleas, and raised a new and somewhat curious point. Two libels were set out in the declaration, as having been published in the defendant's newspaper—the *Lincoln Gazette*. They were both in the form of letters addressed to the editor, and purported to be signed—the first "John R. Maltby;" the other "A. Churchman." In the first letter, it was alleged that the plaintiff, the vicar of Bardney, had assaulted the churchwarden of Bardney, and turned his family out of their pew in the parish church. The defendant did not, by his plea, attempt to justify this letter, which contained libellous imputations, affecting the plaintiff as a clergyman. In the second letter, it was stated as follows:—"Our vicar has committed a slight mistake in turning the churchwarden out of his pew last Sunday morning. I may be wrong, but I think he did. I can hardly reconcile his practice with his profession. He professes to be a follower of the Great Example, and a successor to his apostles in a direct line; but I think there must have been a link broken in the chain which connects our divine with an apostle. He professes to be moved by the Holy Ghost to preach the Gospel, and there can be no doubt that he was moved by the 'spirit' when he came to the churchwarden, and turned him out of his place in a towering passion. Strange preparation for that solemn service! Is not the inconsistent conduct of the professed follower of Christ enough to make infidels of us all? The Church in all ages has suffered most from her professed friends. What is the use of a bishop, if he cannot stop the vagaries of a divine?" The defendant, in his plea to this part of the declaration, alleged that these words "were a fair and *bond fide* comment upon the facts referred to in the first letter, and were published by him as and for such comment, and without any malicious intent or motive." The plaintiff demurred to this plea, on the ground that the second letter contained libellous allegations of facts, which were not contained in the first letter; and thus the question was raised—whether a newspaper was justified in publishing comments upon assumed facts, in themselves libellous, and not protected from legal liability, either as being true, or as privileged by the occasion of their publication? The court decided this question in the negative; holding that the plea was bad in point of law. Sir William Erle (then Lord Chief Justice) said:—"The publication is altogether unjustifiable; indeed it appears to me that the second letter is a distinct and substantive libel. It contains an allegation which might mean that the plaintiff, at the time of the assault, was the worse for liquor. I am well aware that the words might mean merely the 'spirit of wrath,' and not of alcohol; but many might not understand what 'spirit' was meant. Looking at the context, I will presume that the spirit of wrath was meant; but then we have the allegation, that the plaintiff, when he turned the defendant out of his pew, was in a towering passion, and that, though the defendant professed to be a follower of the Great Example, and a successor of His apostles, a link must have been broken. It is, in itself, a substantive libel to say that a clergyman was in a towering passion just before so solemn a service; and it cannot be a fair and *bond fide* comment to impute facts themselves libellous.

Another case which raised the question of the right of comment by the Press on the conduct of Clergymen, came before the Court of Queen's Bench, in November, 1865, in the case of *Kelly v. Tinling*, which was tried at Manchester, at the summer assizes 1865, before Baron Bramwell. The plaintiff was the incumbent of St. George's Church, Liverpool; and the defendant was the proprietor of the *Liverpool Daily Courier*. A dispute having

arisen between the plaintiff and one of the churchwardens of the name of Edgar, on an alleged use by the plaintiff of the vestry of the church, for the purpose of cooking, and an alleged sale of books during divine service, permitted by the plaintiff, a correspondence ensued between them, and the charges were repeated in a letter from Edgar to the plaintiff. The church was connected with the Corporation of Liverpool, and the plaintiff, in consequence, complained to the corporation by letter. This correspondence, including the appeal to the corporation, was published by the defendant in the *Liverpool Daily Courier*. The plaintiff wrote to the defendant a letter of complaint, which was also published; and in reply, the plaintiff commented on the subject in several editorial notes. The whole of the above correspondence, and other letters on the subject, published in the defendant's newspaper, were set out in the declaration, and contained the libels complained of. At the trial, Baron Bramwell pronounced the following dictum:—"Every man has a right to discuss matters of public interest; a clergyman and his flock, an admiral and his fleet, a general and his army, a judge and a jury—all are, happily, subjects for public discussion; and so as to any matter of public interest. And the dispute between the plaintiff as a clergyman and his churchwardens, as to the way in which the church had been used, is a matter of public interest, and fit for public discussion: and provided a man, whether in a newspaper or otherwise, makes comments fair in tone and temper, though he may express opinions you may not agree with, that is not the subject of an action, because, happily, any man who fills a public situation renders himself subject to public discussion as to any part of his public acts or conduct, and although the results may be disagreeable, he must accept them as the consequences of his public situation." On a motion in November, 1865, for a new trial, on the ground of misdirection, it was contended that this dispute between a clergyman and his churchwarden was a private matter, and that the learned judge at the trial was wrong in directing the jury, that it was a matter of public interest. But the court said:—"The decency and orderly conduct of public worship are, from the nature of the case, matters in which the public are interested. Why do we speak of public worship, unless this is so? The remarks of the learned judge at the trial are strictly in conformity with the law; the matter was rightly left to the jury, and the question whether the remarks of the defendant were fair and reasonable was entirely one for their consideration. They have found that they were fair and reasonable, and with this verdict we ought not to interfere."

THE PROGRESS OF NATIVE JOURNALISM IN INDIA.

M. GARCIN DE TASSY, with his usual courtesy, has favoured us with a copy of his annual address on the opening of the course of Hindostanee at the Imperial and Special School of Living Oriental Languages at the Bibliothèque Impériale of Paris. This inaugural address, as we have stated on a previous occasion, comprises a most interesting and comprehensive review of the progress of literature, education, and civilization, among the natives of India, and affords us from year to year a survey of the condition and tendencies of the vernacular Press, from which we find that several new journals have appeared during the year and since our last notice.

The first on the list is the *Ratan Prakāsch*, (or sparkles of jewels), which has appeared weekly at Ratlam, in Bandelkhan, since last May.

The second on the list is the *Guīyan Pradāyari Patrika* (sheet conveying information), a monthly octavo journal of great interest, printed in Hindoo, the first number of which appeared at Lahore in March, 1868. It contains translations of the hymns of Vēda, and of other Sanscrit books, with commentaries thereon; philosophical articles, scientific and literary papers, and all the news of importance; and is edited by the Baboo Nabin Chandar Raó, author of a Sanscrit grammar.

Next comes the *Akhbār Sīntīfak Socīatī Aligarh* (the Journal of the Scientific Society of Aligarh). It commenced with the year, and is published weekly in quarto size, and two column pages. It bears the motto, "To permit the liberty of the Press is the duty of a wise Government, to preserve it is the duty of a

free people;" which, perhaps, our readers would like to see in the original Hindostanee, "Jāiz rakhnā chāpā ki azādi kā hai kām ek dānā siyācat kā aur bar quīrār rakhnā uci azādi kā hai kām ek azād ra'iyat ka." The text of the article is sometimes accompanied by an English translation.

The *Ganj-i-Schāigān* (the Treasury of Necessary Information) and the *Anwār Usṣams* (the Rays of the Sun) are two journals under one editorship, which have appeared in 1868, containing translations of the acts and orders of Government, and the decisions and judgments of the principal law courts.

These are the papers which have actually come under M. de Tassy's observation, but he appends a further list of new journals of which he has found mention made by their contemporaries:—The *Tiliām-i-hairat*, or Talisman of Wonders, published at Madras.

The *Amir Ulakhbār*, or Prince of News, at Madras.

The *Akhbār-i Sar rishta-i ta'-lim-i Aradh* (News of Public Instruction in Oude).

The *Akmal Ulakhbār* (Perfect in News).

The *Zyāh Ulakhbār* (The Eclat of News).

The *Akhbār-i Muhtasham* (News Worth Attention).

There are also the following new religious journals to be counted among the past year's additions to the native Press:—

Haquīqī Irfān (True Knowledge), a monthly journal of Christianity, edited by Iwād Addin, and addressed to the Mussulmen of Amritsur, where the author resides, and printed at the Sun of the Punjab printing-office at Lahore. It first appeared in January, and is of octavo form.

The *Mawaiz Ucha* (Advice for the Future World), quarto, printed at Delhi, and edited by two Hindoo converts.

The *Makhzan-i Maciki*, or Christian Magazine, 8vo, started in July, and printed in the Roman characters; edited by the Rev. J. J. Watch, of Allahabad, and sold for three annas.

The examples of the contents of these vernacular journals cited by M. De Tassy, are (besides news of interest to the natives) the following characteristic articles:—A Prayer in Verse by the Maharajah of Bahrampoor, for the cessation of the Drought which was desolating the country. "Which had an immediate effect, conformably," says the editor, "to the promise in the Koran, Surate xl. verse 62."—An article of twelve columns, reporting a great Lion and Elephant Hunt, by the same Maharajah, "in poetic form, full of oriental metaphor;" extracts and translations from European works; accounts of voyages and travels; a report of the rejoicings which took place on the marriage of the heir of the Rajah of Scinde, &c.

M. De Tassy mentions an (occasionally) illustrated native paper of ten years' standing, called the *Awadh Akhbār*, which has been conducted successfully, and has made poetry, both native and translated, an agreeable feature, which has lately commenced a series of articles on the works of Hindostanee authors.

An enterprising native, Mohamet Wajahāt Ali, the editor of the *Akhbār-i ālam*, who is also proprietor of the lithographic press of Merut, known as "The Hall of Science," has lately added a typographical establishment, which he calls "The Literary Press," from which he now issues the *General Advertiser*, a weekly paper of the mixed languages, which does not strictly come into the category of the native Press.

These annual addresses of M. De Tassy are exceedingly interesting, apart from their more general value, to the student and observer of newspaper history and development, as records of the progress made under most adverse circumstances, by a class of newspapers existing under the British dominion, but necessarily coming under the observation of a very small number of Englishmen—so small, indeed, it may almost be said that, but for the annual address of this eminent scholar of Oriental literature, the existence of a native Press would be practically unknown to us.

"THE QUEEN'S MESSENGER."—We have received the first No. of a new weekly journal, bearing the above title, and dated January 21st; its purpose appears to be to "bring to light and discuss every properly authenticated instance of departmental misconduct" in the Government service. There may be room for such an organ, but sixpence is too high a price for eight pages, even though the paper be "toned," and the type "old face."

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

V.—THE "BELFAST NEWS LETTER."

THIS is the oldest journal in the province of Ulster, and the oldest in Ireland, with the exception of the *Limerick Chronicle*. It first appeared on the 1st of September, 1737. The original proprietors were Henry and Robert Joy, the first-named being the father and the second the uncle of Chief Justice Joy. Henry Joy was a great advocate for the cause of the old Volunteers, and he was the individual who called the great Dungannon meeting, in 1782, by letters missive, which led to the declaration of Irish legislative independence, and ultimately to the union with Great Britain. He was a good and loyal man, and decidedly opposed to the United Irishmen. The *News Letter* continued in the family of the Joys for upwards of sixty years, being originally neutral, and then assuming a more decidedly loyal tone in its politics.

In the year 1798, some outrages were committed by the rebels upon the persons and property of those who were connected with the newspapers opposed to their views, in the hope of eventually suppressing them; one method of annoyance being to waylay the newscarriers, and, after beating them, to destroy their papers. These outrages alarmed the then proprietor, Mr. Henry Joy (father to the late Henry Holmes Joy, the eminent barrister, of Dublin), and he sold the *News Letter*, which became the joint property of Mr. D. Murray, of Edinburgh, in three sixths, Mr. Alexander Mackay in one sixth, and Mr. Allan, a Scotch banker and geologist, in two sixths.

In 1813, the *News Letter* had no editor, and it was mainly supported by the contributions of the Rev. John Graham, of Magilligan vicarage, who had a lengthened but successful paper war with the Arians, and continued to be a correspondent of the paper for eight or nine years. After some changes in the editorship, its management was entrusted to Mr. James Stuart, LL.D., barrister-at-law, and author of the "History of Armagh," "A Protestant Layman," and some other literary and political works, and a staunch friend to the constitution. That gentleman converted the paper into a high constitutional Protestant journal, strongly opposed to the Roman Catholic claims, and raised its circulation very considerably. He retired from the *News Letter* in 1827, and died at Belfast, in September, 1840, at the advanced age of seventy-six. Mr. James McNeight succeeded him in the editorship, which he held for many years.

It is now the property of Mr. J. A. Henderson, and is, undoubtedly, the leading Conservative journal of the province.

E. J.

THE HISTORY OF THE "INVALIDE RUSSE."

OUR foreign correspondence has lately announced the demise of this celebrated journal, after an existence of half a century. The following is its history:—It was established in 1813 by M. Pezarovius, with the intention of devoting the proceeds to the help of wounded soldiers. The first copy was issued on the 1st of February, 1813, the number of subscribers being but twelve. At the end of three months there were eight hundred in St. Petersburg alone, and they quickly increased to four thousand. The brilliant success of the new journal had important results; and with its receipts and private donations its founder formed a considerable capital, to which he gave the name of "Invalid Capital." In the very first year M. Pezarovius bestowed assistance or an annual pension on four hundred and fifty individuals, and in the succeeding years to upwards of twelve hundred, and yet at the end of 1815 was able to give a donation of 895,000 silver roubles to the committee *des blesses*. After this date, the newspaper in question furnished the invalid fund with an annual revenue of from 20,000 to 40,000 roubles. During the Crimean war, from 1853 to 1857, this income amounted to upwards of 100,000 silver roubles. Three years after, the law of the Press being altered, it was thought necessary to place the paper under the immediate management of the Ministry, and, since 1862, the *Invalid* has not only ceased to be a source of income to the invalid fund, but it has itself stood in need of a considerable subvention. In 1867 this amounted to 28,770 roubles, besides promises furnished by the Crown to the chief editor and his staff of assistants.

A ROVING EDITOR.

WE find in the *Journal de l'Orne*, of December 24th, some curious personal anecdotes of Mr. Edward McDonnell, a professor in the French University, and son of the late Sir Edward McDonnell, of Dunfeirth House, county Kildare, Ireland.

He left Melbourne, whither he had gone on a journey, but, we believe, without intention of settling there, and, in January, 1866, he arrived in Calcutta, where, after having filled for some time a professorship in Xavier College, he became attached to the editorial staff of the *Calcutta Englishman*; from thence he passed on to Lahore in the Punjab. After having visited *en route* Patna (whence he made a *detour* through Tirthoot to the frontiers of Nepaul), Benares, Allahabad, Cawnpore, Agra, Delhi, &c., and undertook the office of editor-in-chief of the *Lahore Chronicle*. In June, 1867, he left Lahore, travelled over the Punjab to Mool-tann, and thence steamed, for six or seven hundred miles, down the Indus to Kotree. From Kotree he made an excursion to Hyderabad, the ancient capital of the fallen Ameers of Scinde. At Kurrachee, in British Beloochistaun, he embarked for Bombay, and on his arrival in that city, he accepted the office of sub-editor of the *Bombay Gazette*. Hardly had a few months passed over when the Abyssinian expedition tempted him to renounce once more his settled habits of life, and he accordingly set out for Annesley Bay as special correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette*, attached to the staff of General Napier. He thus became one of the historiographers of the campaign, and added considerably to the mass of materials which he had already collected on all sides, with a view to publish a book of his travels, which may hereafter appear. Having returned invalided from Annesley Bay (by Suez, Cairo, Alexandria, Smyrna, Constantinople, and Gibraltar) to Dublin in June last, he now proposes, being considerably improved in health, to enter again into the University of France.

"GLASGOW HERALD" FESTIVAL.

LAST month the proprietors of the *Glasgow Herald* newspaper entertained the members of the several departments of their establishment, in celebration of the erection and recent occupation of new buildings between Buchanan and Mitchell-streets, and of the extension of the American printing machinery and the steam-power employed in the office. About 150 gentlemen sat down to a sumptuous dinner, in St. Mary's Hall, Renfield-street. Mr. James Pagan filled the chair, and Mr. James Morrison officiated as crepuier. The usual loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the Chairman proposed "Prosperity to the *Glasgow Herald*," and detailed at some length the various steps and stages in the progress of the paper, from its origin in the Saltmarket in 1782, where it was accommodated in premises rented at £5 per annum, and was printed upon a wooden screw press, which turned out 100 complete copies an hour—thus contrasting in a most remarkable degree with the present productive power of 32,000 impressions an hour. In reference to the advance of the business in more recent times, the Chairman said—You all know that the increase of the circulation of late years has been enormous, and it is a curious and interesting fact that we now print and circulate as many copies of the *Herald* in a week as were printed and circulated in eleven months thirty years ago. It is not to be forgotten, however, that in these early times those important auxiliaries, the news-agents, who carry the news and light literature of the day into every house and hamlet in town and country, did not exist in Scotland. The increase in advertising—the great test of the commercial importance of a newspaper—has not been less remarkable. I have often been told by members of the establishment long since departed, that when the *Herald* for the first time contained one hundred advertisements in a single number, Mr. Samuel Hunter (the then managing partner and editor) was so much gratified that he gave a treat to the people in the office in honour of the occasion. What is the state of matters now? The *Herald* contains, especially in the spring time of the year, from 1000 to 1300 advertisements in a single sheet, and that not for one but several days in the week. In the times to which I refer, when 150 to 180 advertisements were published in a week, it was considered that the office was doing a satisfactory stroke of business. In April of the present year the

Herald published upwards of 5,000 advertisements in a single week. You are aware that of old the paper was only published twice a week, and it is also requisite to keep the important fact in mind that in these days the lowest price taken for an advertisement was 6s. 6d., of which 3s. 6d. was paid to the Government in the form of duty, and this latter sum rigorously exacted, although the publisher never received a penny of it from the advertiser. The paper is now open to the public for small advertisements at a thirteenth part of the sum formerly charged. You will not be surprised to learn that the expenses have increased in a degree correspondent to the rise in circulation and advertising; and as one proof of this increase, I may mention that the sum now paid for special and ordinary telegraphing, and for reporting and correspondence in London alone, greatly exceeds the amount expended for the upholding of the whole establishment—salaries, wages, rent and all—in the days of Samuel Hunter. A variety of toasts followed and the company separated at half past ten.

THE INTELLECTUAL TRAINING OF JOURNALISTS.

In Mr. Goldwin Smith's introductory lecture at the Cornell University the following remarks were made:—It was not necessary that a study should be unpractical in order to cultivate the mind; any intellectual pursuit would have the effect of culture. It was intended, however, as he conceived, to include in the course of instruction everything really essential to the citizen or the man. In America every man had political duties to perform, and it was impossible to be an intelligent politician without some knowledge of history. But beside this there was a special class of men connected with politics who needed a training in political philosophy and history to enable them to perform entirely the duties of their calling. He meant the class of journalists whose power in the world at present was immense, and their responsibility equal to their power. He suggested that as some manual industry was connected with other departments of study in the university, shorthand-writing and printing might be connected with this department.

SENDING OUT THE NEWS.

UNDER the heading of "Something like a System," in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* for February, 1867, we gave an account of our visit to Messrs. W. H. Smith and Sons' gigantic establishment in the Strand. The *Daily News* has lately given a graphic account of the same great system, filling in the following descriptive details:—"The great thing," we are assured, is "to get the work done in time. From five to six is our greatest rush, and it's only by watching and care that we don't miss one or other of the early trains. These are nearly all about 6 a.m. There's one of the London and Chatham's goes at 5.50—that's the earliest of all; but the great bulk of the newspapers even by that line leave by a train at 6.15; and between 6, which is the time of the London and Brighton, to 6.30 the South Eastern's, and 6.35 Waterloo, the trains of all the great London lines go out. We've got a new plan now at the Great Western. They've given us a room on the platform, and we've eighteen men there who do all the folding, addressing, and checking you see going on for the other lines here now—close to the train. The papers are taken down direct from the various offices just as they leave the press, and don't come near this central department. Then, the North Western Company accommodates us in another way. On their line we have a special double carriage fitted up as a newspaper room, and in this four of our men go down by the early train and fold and distribute papers all over the North Western Railway district. Their journey ends at Stafford, and they come back again every day by the 2 train. Our system is a very simple one. These large sheets of stout brown paper have printed labels, you'll observe, pasted on each side. One of these is the agent's or customer's address; the other is a list of the different newspapers we send out, with blanks for the number to be supplied. These are filled in the day before by clerks, who copy the particulars from the order-books, so that, as you see, when morning comes, and the brown covers are sorted into districts in this room, the packers have but to call out so many of the *Times*, or *Daily News*, and so many of the

other journals in rotation, according to the list before them. The parcel is not tied up until its contents are counted by another man, so that there may be no mistake."

This statement is not given consecutively as written, but at intervals in the course of busy, omnipresent supervision. Two clocks are so placed that the foreman speaking has the dial-plate of one or other of them in sight wherever he stands, and the great struggle is to have the many bulky parcels tied up in time for the carts in waiting. The advertisement sheets of the *Times* are being folded down stairs—the main portion of that journal has not yet come in. This folding takes place down stairs, where a large department fitted up with steam engines and folding machines is as busy as the one from whence we have descended. Two Post-office vans drive up, and are speedily filled with bales of printed matter for the early mails. "Hallo, Jenkins! (energetically) what's this?" applies to young man in shirt sleeves and apron, who has paused for a moment to blow his nose. "'Arf a minute only, sir. Tomkins is a fetchin' of 'em in," is given in reply, but penitentially, and extra energy is at once displayed, as if in condonation of the momentary break; for pausing means delay, and delay would be fatal to the entire scheme. If a hundred and thirty men and boys persisted in using their pocket-handkerchiefs twice between 5 a.m. and 6 a.m., one hundred and fifty thousand families would be kept behind the world for hours. So all work together with a will and without intermission till the last cart goes. The foreman is ubiquitous. Now at the door superintending the loading, now exchanging a hasty word with the bearded booking clerk, who sits in a glass sentry-box at the entrance, to tick off the bales despatched, and enter them in his ledger, now hailing the staff on the first gallery, who are busy with the stamped copies, now casting a rapid eye upon the workers, and now again admonishing all present of the fleeting time. Although the extreme strain is, as we have said, from 5 to 6 a.m., the working morning hours are from 4.45 a.m. till 8, the Irish and foreign mails claiming attention after the first trains have left. So far, we have noticed chiefly the large parcels. But besides these brown paper monsters are snug circular packets, like large Catherine wheels, or bundles of squibs, which follow in the wake of their big brethren, to be like them borne off to the four points of the compass by cart and train. These are the single copies for such people as live near some station which is too small and insignificant to support a book-stall. Each squib is a newspaper folded as if for post, and with an address which is set up and printed fresh each day. These are left simply at the stations, and are arranged for privately by the consignees. Certain railways, such as the Great Western, the Great Northern, the Midland, and the North Western, issue half-penny stamps for these which frank them to their destination on the line. On others, such as the London, Chatham, and Dover, the South-Eastern, the South-Western, the Great Eastern, and the London and Brighton, they are carried with the larger parcels at the "lumped" price per cwt. as goods. No dwelling is too insignificant and no district too remote to be reached by the agencies we see; and to behold the dumb sheets first beaten, patted, and coerced into bulky masses, and then thrown heavily into the vehicles and hurried off, and to then reflect upon all which this mechanical process implied, was as if some wizard had lifted the veil, and shown us the pulsation of the great world's heart. The tidings of joy and grief, the news conveying prosperity to one family and ruin to another, the fate of empires and the condition of nations, the state of the weather at the Orkney Islands, the price of shares on the Stock Exchange, the number of times the Queen walked on the Windsor slopes, the "form" of the racing favourite of the hour, the intentions of the Ministry, the latest squabble between parish guardians, the last murder, the most recent effort of public benevolence, crime, theology, politics, and science—are all packed up and sent forth on their mission. The single word "news" comprises these, and early morning at a great newsagent's has a poetry in its very prose.

"THE BUILDING SOCIETIES' GAZETTE" came out with the new year. Its title sufficiently explains its mission.

Chess literature now includes one quarterly and two monthlies, four weekly and one bi-weekly column in London newspapers, and others in the provinces.

DISAPPOINTED CONTRIBUTORS.

(From the Round Table.)

PEOPLE who write, or wish to write for newspapers are unfortunately not exempt from the passions and weaknesses of the rest of mankind, and when their services cannot be made available, or, having been availed of, are dispensed with, they sometimes try to injure the immediate author of their discomfiture. We have heard the editor of a New York daily called the most noble and generous, and the most selfish and depraved of mortals, by the self-same lips, and in the short space of a month. It is plain that these stories of brusqueness, hardness, and tyranny must emanate from persons who are in the obvious position to suffer from such qualities. They are contributors, that is so say or the would-be contributors, or the dissatisfied contributors, who consider themselves at once the cleverest, and the most unfortunate of essayists, and who go about revenging themselves upon an unappreciative world by anathematizing the vicarious editors. The latter, miserable souls, are forced to consider not what writers but what the public would like to see printed. In the case of a journal like the *Times* the matter which seeks the publication to the matter that gets it must be as something like a hundred to one. Hence it is easy to see there must be disappointments. Of course there are such creatures occasionally as illiberal, oppressive and arrogant editors; but any one who reflects a little must see that the general tendency of the editorial occupation must be to bring out and devote the judicial qualities, that there is every incentive in the calling to make a man discriminating and just, and that it must be constantly against his interest to be otherwise. Editors are surely a very hardworked and very much villified class, and the public should think of them with lenity and consideration, and receive these sinister-looking stories to their prejudice with proper grains of salt.

FACILITIES TO NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION IN AMERICA.

THE newspaper in America, says the New York correspondent of the *Times*, is regarded as a useful and necessary institution, and one which it is as much the duty of the Government and people to support as the public school system, or any other of the many indispensable things that the community carries on for its benefit. This usefulness of the newspaper is recognised by the Government in every way. Every law passed by the Federal Congress is required to be published in a certain number of newspapers in every State in the Union; the same is the case with every treaty ratified, with every Presidential proclamation, and with other official acts of our rulers. Nothing can be bought or sold by the Government without advertisement duly made. In these ways millions of dollars, are distributed over the country among the newspaper profession. When Congress, at the close of the war, lessened the heavy taxation upon the people, the first tax removed was the inland duty upon advertisements, and the importance of the newspaper business was recognised by exempting it from restriction. But the Government even goes further than this, and holds it to be its duty actually to facilitate the newspaper circulation. Every advantage that can be asked in the way of postal facilities is extended to newspaper circulation. The "exchange papers" in every newspaper office are an important source of information, and there are few American editors who do not exchange their paper with several hundred contemporaries. By law, the Post Office Department carries all these exchange papers free of cost, either to sender or receiver. The San Francisco publisher drops his journal daily into the Post Office at that city, and it is carried 3,000 miles to Philadelphia; the Philadelphia publisher receives it, and in turn sends his paper to San Francisco. Not a penny is paid for this service, yet it goes on between the many newspaper offices of the country, and tons of mail-matter are carried in this way at the public cost. The Post Office does even more, for it gives each publisher a post office box on his own premises to receive his hundreds of exchanges daily, to be his exclusive property so long as thus used, and this, too, without any pay. 1,000 dols. a year from each would scarcely pay for the service thus done for every newspaper in the country, and done volun-

tarily and gladly by the Government. The Post Office does much than this, for it considers it to be the wisest policy to benefit the subscribers as well as the publishers of newspapers. The newspaper mails are carried with the same speed and care as the letter mails, but at a much lower rate. Letter postage from any part of the United States to any other, provided the distance be not more than 3,000 miles, is at the rate of 3c. for a half-ounce. Newspaper postage for the same distance is but 2c. a single rate, and this single rate is anything less than four ounces, so that the sender may put half-a-dozen newspapers in one package, provided it does not weigh over four ounces, and still pay only 2c. postage for it. Besides this, the Post Office grants a commutation to regular newspaper subscribers. The subscribers to a daily newspaper would have to pay at the regular rate 2c. postage a day, but by merely exhibiting a receipt from the publisher, showing him to be a subscriber, he is entitled to the commutation, and pays 30c. in advance for three months at the Post Office where he receives his paper. For 1dol. 20c. a year, therefore, he can get through the post his 310 daily newspapers that otherwise would have cost over six dollars postage. These advantages are extended to all publications—daily, weekly, or monthly. The publishers of weekly papers have an additional advantage, as they can send by mail, free of charge for postage, one copy of their paper each week to any subscriber within the county where the paper is published. These are actual encouragements to the public to subscribe, and they are granted by the Government in order to assist a business which is thought to be of incalculable benefit to the country. Books, authors' MSS., proof-sheets, &c., are also carried by mail at much less than the regular rates, and for the same reason. The railway, steamboat, express, and telegraph companies, also, for the same cause, grant facilities for the gathering of news and the circulation of newspapers not enjoyed by the general public. While all the the transportation lines give every facility for the carriage of newspaper bundles from the cities to rural newsmen and agents, they rarely think of charging anything for the service; and the telegraph companies, recognising the newspapers as among their best customers, transmit their news messages at from one-third to one-half of the ordinary rates.

TAKING THINGS FOR GRANTED.

(From the London Review.)

It is perfectly wonderful how a taking idea or phrase about a man, once fairly started, runs through the English press; every writer simply serving as the echo of the man who came before him. No matter how utterly and obviously opposed to the palpable truth and stark, staring reality, if such a notice only gets a good start to begin with, it may keep on and be accepted for ever. It saves trouble, it saves time, it saves thinking and looking. Take a very trivial fact as an illustration. Somebody in *Punch*, years ago, when sketching Mr. Bright, depicted him as having an eye-glass stuck in his eye. This was a mistake. Mr. Bright never, by any chance, wears an eye-glass. But the mistake was perpetuated; all artists in *Punch* followed in the wake of the first, and other artists in other comic journals followed in the track of *Punch*; and we should hardly know Mr. Bright now in a comic picture if he did not stare at us through this mythical eye-glass. This was a very trifling mistake, but it may serve as an illustration of the kind of thing we mean.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARIES OF THE COUNTRY PRESS.

(From Chambers' Journal.)

THE provincial Press is represented in the Gallery by the reporters of the Electric Telegraph Co., who do those short summaries of the proceedings which are supplied by telegraph to the daily newspapers published in the provinces. These summaries are telegraphed from the House itself, and are sent so quickly and regularly, that I myself have known occasions on which the conclusion of a long debate has been received at a newspaper office three hundred miles from the House of Commons, ten minutes after the last speaker sat down.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, January 26.

The new year was ushered in by the appearance of a new official organ of the Government in lieu of the *Moniteur*, which, after an existence of seventy years, has subsided into private life, and is now carried on, not only as an independent and no longer subventioned journal, but inclining rather to Liberal views, and some show even of opposition to Government. You will recollect that the State claimed the name of the *Moniteur*, as it had been the official organ ever since its original foundation, and even made arrangements to call their new organ *Le Moniteur Officiel*; but to this the proprietors stoutly objected, and claimed the protection of the laws and the decision of a court of justice—rather a bold thing to do, considering the charming one-sided way in which justice is administered under the Second Empire. The court selected was the Tribunal of Commerce, and, to the credit of the judges, be it said, that they are not so cringingly obsequious as most of their colleagues, and actually gave a judgment in favour of the plaintiffs, and against the Government, so that a new title and name had to be created for the new organ, which now appears as the *Journal Officiel de l'Empire Français*, with an engraving of the Imperial coat of arms, which is a novelty in French journalism. The sentence of the court was delivered on the 28th of last month, and M. Dalloz, the *Gérant*, wrote a couple of lines for publication the next morning, just communicating the result of the trial. Proof sheets were sent as usual to the Minister's office for approbation, and came back with M. Dalloz's short notice struck out, and the marginal remark in the handwriting of M. Robert Billiard, the head of the censorship department, "useless to publish a judgment that will be reversed to-morrow." However, it was not reversed, but confirmed the next day by the Court of Appeal. In the meanwhile, the old *Moniteur* continues to appear under the title of *Le Moniteur Universel*, *Gazette Nationale*, fondée en 1789, for the morning edition, and *le petit Moniteur Universel du Soir*, for the evening edition. The former is signed "P. Dalloz and E. Pointet, Directeurs—Gérants," the latter only by P. Dalloz, and both editions are printed by Pointet, 13, Quai Voltaire. Both continue to enjoy a large circulation in the provinces and abroad, from which it may be inferred that the alteration is not generally known of its degradation or elevation to independence. It cannot be denied that the pages of the *Moniteur* have recorded a succession of perhaps the greatest and most important mutations and stirring events that have ever happened in the history of France, always remaining the official organ, and, like the Vicar of Bray, always supporting the Government, whether as Republic, Consulate, Empire, Restoration, Constitutional Monarchy, Republic again, and now the Second Empire. It can scarcely, with fairness, be laid to the charge of the successive editors of that journal that they should alter their tone so frequently, as it was part of the system, and manifestly their special duty to support the Government of the day; but in no period of its deeply chequered existence was it so prominently conspicuous as on the return of the Emperor Napoleon from Elba in March, 1815, when in ten days it gradually changed the tone of its bulletins from the greatest indignation and disgust to the most fulsome adulation and cringing servility in the following modulated epithets:—1. The monster in human form has escaped from his dungeon in Elba; 2. The ogre of Corsica has just landed on the coast of France; 3. The bloodthirsty tiger has arrived at Gap; 4. The anthropophagus passed the night at Grenoble; 5. The tyrant has passed through Lyons; 6. The usurper has been seen 60 leagues from the capital; 7. Bonaparte is rapidly approaching, but he will never enter Paris; 8. Napoleon will be to-morrow under our ramparts; 9. The Emperor has arrived at Fontainebleau; and finally, "Paris, March 21.—His Imperial and Royal Majesty last evening made his triumphal entry into the metropolis, and was escorted to his Palace of the Tuileries amidst the deafening shouts of his loyal and enthusiastic subjects."

Great disappointment is felt, and very generally expressed, at both the appearance and contents of the new *Journal Officiel*, which is found to be no improvement on the old *Moniteur*, though

distinguished by the Imperial coat of arms. M. Rouher is also discontented, and has been heard to grumble several times. It is said that he requires M. Wietersheim, the new contractor, to furnish better type and paper. The *Presse* of this city gives a calculation of the expenses that the last-named gentleman will have to bear, arriving at an annual total of 1,178,000*f.*, including 750,000*f.* for the 95,000 free copies he is bound by his contract to deliver every day, 350,000*f.* for the Parliamentary reports, and 75,000*f.* for rent. The French were never celebrated for their knowledge of geography, but one was scarcely prepared to see this ignorance shown up so prominently as in the new *Journal Officiel*, where a few days ago, in giving an account of Turkey, it states that that country is bounded on the north-west by Austria and Prussia!

On the 7th inst. another storm of indignation broke out here, on its becoming known that Baron de Segnier, the Imperial Procurator at Toulouse, had fallen into disgrace and been dismissed for his leniency towards the Press. This gentleman belongs to an ancient family who have always furnished dignitaries of the learned profession, and is a descendant of that Baron de Segnier who, in a former reign, when Judge of the Supreme Court, made use of the well-known words, "*la cour rend des arrêts, et non pas des services*," expressive of the proud independence of the Bench. He is also well-known for the proof he gave of his personal courage some time ago when he was President of the Court of Justice at Epemay, in disarming, with great danger, a fanatical criminal, who, on hearing his sentence, rushed on him with the intention of shooting him. So many different versions were circulated by the Paris and provincial journals as to the causes and mode of his dismissal, that he thought proper to write a letter of explanation, which has been going the round of the Press, accompanied by their various commentaries, all more or less favourable to him, and praising his conduct. He declares that he was obliged to tender his resignation, not from private motives, but on public grounds, in consequence of the unjust and offensive reproaches heaped upon him by the Minister of Justice, for his alleged too great leniency in the affair of the late Press prosecutions. All the independent and opposition journals have warmly espoused his cause, and are as loud as they can venture to be in the condemnation of the conduct of Government. This episode in the history of the Press under the Second Empire has made a deep sensation, the more so, as this is the first instance of a French dignitary of the law having the moral courage to act in opposition to the wishes, and, indeed, strict injunctions, of his Government. The semi-official organs are in a painful dilemma, and take care not to say much on the subject; they cannot condone the Minister of Justice, and yet see that a functionary who acts in opposition to his instructions deserves to be punished. The *Figaro* proposes a general subscription as a tribute of gratitude from the French Press, and as a compensation to Baron de Segnier, for the humiliation to which he has been subjected. It is said that he has expressed his intention of coming to Paris to practise at the Bar. In the meanwhile the vacancy has been filled up, and the appointment given to a M. Bellon, who is gazetted as *Procureur Imperial* of the Court at Toulouse.

It cannot be said that since the removal of M. Pinard the Courts of Justice have shown more leniency towards offences of the Press, and I regret to say that there is no sign of a change of system. Thus the *Diable-à-Quatre* has been prosecuted for saying that the Emperor is in his dotage, and has virtually abdicated, being led by the nose like the Sultan and Charles X. The writer of the article, M. Loeroy, in spite of a brilliant defence by M. Laurier, was condemned to four months' imprisonment, the *gérant* of the paper to two months, and the printer to one month, besides which each of the three is sentenced to pay a fine of 3,000*f.*

Scarcely has the successor of M. de Segnier been appointed before proceedings have been commenced against the *Emancipation* of Toulouse on two fresh counts, M. Arnaud Duportal, the chief editor, having been summoned before the *Juge d'Instruction* in that city to give explanations, and undergo an examination preparatory to the formal prosecutions. The *Indépendant du Lot* has been summoned before the tribunal of Cahors for refusing to insert a *communiqué* sent by the Imperial Procurator.

On the 15th inst. the trial of the *Avenir* took place at Auch, in the department of Gers. It soon became known that M. Jules

Favre had arrived from Paris to conduct the defence, and a very numerous audience had assembled to listen to the speech of that great orator, who pleaded with his usual surprising eloquence, and elicited thunders of applause, which could not be constrained by the presence of three detachments of dismounted hussars stationed in the court to preserve order and enforce silence. The judges, however, confirmed the sentence of the inferior tribunal, and thus M. Lissagaray has to pay 2,000*fr.*, and suffer a month's imprisonment, and M. Barbé, the *grant*, 500*fr.*, with a fortnight of prison life. Public feeling was unmistakably in favour of the defendants, for, after the proceedings of the day had terminated, the mayor of the town invited M. Jules Favre to an evening party, where more than six hundred persons were assembled to welcome and compliment him on his brilliant defence. On the following day a further ovation was paid to public opinion by a party given by M. Dabouche, who is in bad odour with the Government for his steadfast patriotism and liberal views. Fifteen hundred persons of the *élite* of the department were here collected to do honour to the great orator and M. Lissagaray, whose health was drunk with great enthusiasm.

Another sensation has been caused by the defection of M. de Sainte Beuve, member of the Senate, with a salary of 80,000*fr.* per annum, and hitherto a strong supporter of Government, as well as a powerful and intellectual writer in the *Moniteur*, as long as that journal was the official organ. He has now gone over to the opposition, and writes for the Radical journal *Le Temps*. M. Paul de Cassagnac devotes in the *Pays* a leading article on the apostasy of the senator, concluding with an allusion to the rats escaping from a sinking ship.

On the day of Rossini's funeral, M. de Coëtlogon, one of the editors of the *Figaro* had a dispute in the street with an officer of the 51st Regt. of the Line on duty, and gave him a box on the ear, which of course provoked a challenge; this, however, was declined, but he was prosecuted by the authorities, found guilty of obstructing an officer in the discharge of his duty, and condemned to a month's imprisonment and payment of a fine of 200*fr.* The four witnesses, or intended seconds, had to pay 50*fr.* each.

The *Constitutionnel* has lost the services of one of its most powerful and intellectual writers by the resignation of M. Robert Mitchell, about which there exists much difference of opinion. The *Journal de Paris* insinuates that it was in consequence of an order from the Minister of State; but this is strenuously denied in an article in the *Constitutionnel*, signed by E. Gibiat, its director, who states that no Government pressure has been used either directly or indirectly. Some say that he has been engaged by the *Gaulois*, with a salary of 14,000*fr.*, whilst others affirm that he is about to start a new weekly of his own, under the name of the *Plebiscite*, which, as the name implies, will include all election affairs.

The new French blue-book, which was distributed on the 20th inst., says in speaking of the affairs of the Press: "Under the dominion of the new Press law, the number of political journals has greatly increased at Paris, and still more so in the provinces, whilst on the other hand there is a falling off in the literary and other non-political papers and periodicals. On the 31st of October, 1867, there were 74 political journals published at Paris and 310 in the country, whilst October 31, 1868, the numbers were 82 and 398 respectively. Since the new Press law came into operation, 84 new metropolitan journals have been reported to the Government, and 77 in the departments. Of this number, however, 20 have been either never brought out, or else discontinued."

Messrs. Villemessant and Ulbach, who had announced in the *Figaro* the arrest of a south American diplomatist suspected to be M. Rochefort, have been tried under the provisions of the new Press law for disseminating false intelligence, convicted of fact and condemned, the former to a fine of 2,000*fr.*, the latter 500*fr.*, and the printer Dubuisson 100*fr.*

The French Government is now engaging young aspiring writers, at salaries of from 600 to 1200*fr.* per month, to support in the provincial Press, the Government candidates at the approaching elections.

During the late disturbances in the island of Reunion—better known as the Isle of Bourbon—the Press was suspended; but by the latest accounts from that colony we learn that the governor has graciously been pleased to allow the journals to reappear,

subject to the magnanimous proviso, that they publish no political intelligence of any description, nor make the slightest allusion to the late unfortunate events, which led to the proclamation of martial law in the island.

AVANT COURIER.

Here is the result of the working of the Press law for the last week of the auspicious year 1868:—1. *Rercil*, sentenced on appeal to 50*fr.* fine instead of 2000*fr.*; its editor to be imprisoned for six months and deprived of political rights for the same period. 2. *Tribune* (appeal), 2,000*fr.* fine. 3. *Journal de Paris* (appeal), 1,000*fr.* fine. 4. *Temps* (appeal), 1,000*fr.* fine. 5. *Indépendant* of Nîmes (appeal), 500*fr.* fine. All these appeals arose out of the Baudin prosecutions. 6. *Pavé* suppressed; 500*fr.* fine, one month's imprisonment for the editor—offence, writing about politics without leave. 7. *Marionettes* of Lyons, same offence; suppressed; 1,800*fr.* fine, and 90 days' imprisonment for the editor. *Emancipation* of Toulouse, "libelling a public functionary;" 8,000*fr.* damages, and 1,000*fr.* fine. *Progres de L'Oise*, 200*fr.* fine (exciting to the hatred and contempt). A little print, called *La Veilleuse*, has been sentenced to 300*fr.* fine for publishing an article on Mdlle. Schneider, the "Grand Duchesse de Gerolstein."

It appears that no less than 139 new journals were started in Paris in the course of the past year—that is, since the law on previous authorization was abolished. Of these, 104 were literary and art journals; 14 treated of political matters, six of them appearing daily, 12 on art applied to industry and science; one on the rural police, or *gardes champêtres*; one on *cafés-concerts*; one aerial navigation; one on railroad stations; and one on house porters. Of the 139 only two continue to appear.

In Paris, the salaries of editors are said to be in the inverse proportion to the work done. One is mentioned who visits his office an hour every alternate day and gets 80,000*fr.* salary.

M. DE VILLEMESSANT gives the numbers of the political newspapers of Paris as follows:—*Siccle*, 86,000; *Liberté*, 14,000 to 18,000; *Patrie*, 15,000; *Opinion Nationale*, 10,000; *Presse*, 9,500; *Temps*, 9,500; *Journal des Débats*, 8,600; *Constitutionnel*, 8,500; *France*, 8,500; *Union*, 7,000; *Gazette de France*, 6,500; *Monde*, 5,200; *Univers*, 4,200; *Epoque*, 2,900; *Pays*, 2,800; *Etendard*, 2,500.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, January 27.

In my last month's letter, I informed you that two liberal members of the Prussian House of Commons—Dr. Ebert and Herr Duncker—had brought in a bill for the abolition of trials for all Press offences before the usual courts of justice, and the substitution of trial by jury; and that it had been referred to the Judicial Committee appointed *ad hoc* to examine and report on. At their first sitting there was an animated discussion, after which the first section was passed by six to four votes, it being agreed that the proposed measure did not involve any alteration of the existing constitution; but the second section—the most important one of all, decreeing that all political and Press offences be tried by juries—had but a negative result, the votes being equal, which by the rules of the House is tantamount to a rejection, and thus I fear the bill is shelved for the present session. The Privy Councillor Schelling, who acted as Government Commissioner, pointed out that the passing of the bill would virtually anticipate part of the new Penal Code for the North German Confederation now in course of preparation, and observed that during the strong excitement of the last few years it would have been extremely difficult, if not altogether impracticable, to succeed with trial by jury in political and Press prosecutions, especially in Schleswig-Holstein, Hanover, and other provinces of the enlarged monarchy. Herr Windhorst, M.P. for Meppen, and formerly minister of the ex-king of Hanover, proposed an amendment, but it was negatived without a division. Amongst the warmest supporters of the bill was Herr Müller, member for Solingen, in Westphalia, whose voice carries considerable weight with it, as he was under-secretary of state for the department of justice for eight years (from 1849 to 1857), during which period he must have gained a vast deal of information and experience of the practical effect and working of the question.

The association of journalists called the *Berliner Presse*, have appointed a committee of their own members to examine into and report on the new bill for preventing literary piracy, brought by

the Prussian Government before the *Bundesrath* or Federal Council for their approbation, preparatory to its being laid before the North-German Parliament; the report to be read and discussed at the next sitting. At the same time it was unanimously agreed to petition the *Bundesrath* for leave to have a representative of the Press present at the conferences to give any required information on the subject, when the bill comes on for their discussion.

The *Bürgerschaft*, of Bremen, have petitioned the senate of that city to co-operate with them in a revision of the Press law. The senate replied that they were perfectly willing to comply, but considered it more expedient at the present time to postpone taking action, as the Federal Parliament will, in all probability, take the subject in hand in the ensuing session, and make a comprehensive Press law for all the states of the confederation. There appears, however, to be no difficulty in going ahead at once, as others of the lesser states of Germany, such as Saxe-Weimar, Saxe-Meiningen, and the Duchy of Reuss (of which latter you lately gave some account in No. 25 of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*, under the heading of "A Model Press Law"), have lately revised their Press laws.

The *Weiser Zeitung* of Bremen, one of the most influential and best conducted liberal journals in the north of Germany, completed on the 4th inst., the twenty-fifth year of its existence, on which day the auspicious event was duly celebrated by the proprietors, editors, collaborators, printers, compositors, and others connected with the establishment.

The editor of the *Frankfurter Zeitung* was lately fined 30 florins, the editor and publisher of the *Beobachter* 3 florins and costs for minor Press offences. In Darmstadt, the publishing office of the *Hessische Landeszeitung* was honoured with a domiciliary visit. In Berlin, two late numbers of the *Vienna Neue Freie Presse* were confiscated and destroyed.

Count Seebach, the Saxon Minister here, is bringing an action for libel against the *Frankfort Journal* for having charged him with taking a *pot-de-vin* for his aid in bolstering up some financial undertaking.

No less than twenty-eight prosecutions have been suddenly and simultaneously commenced against W. Schardius, the responsible editor of an obscure local weekly paper published in this city, under the name of the *Hamburger Montags-Nachrichten*, for defamation of character. It is, however, somewhat remarkable that, as there is an official specially appointed by the police to keep a watchful eye on the Press here, they should have been allowed thus to accumulate, instead of successive measures being taken at the time each offence was committed, as almost every issue since its first appearance last summer contains one or other of the incriminating articles. It is, therefore, to be supposed that it was the intention of the authorities to let the paper run the length of its tether, and then, with one fell swoop, to crush it out of existence by the united power of the convictions and punishments.

The Berlin *Volksfreund* announces that Frau von Delping, the proprietress of the *Zukunft* has poisoned herself with prussic acid. The death of her only son, Julius von Delping, who had managed the affairs of the paper for her since its first commencement, as well as pecuniary embarrassments, are said to have induced her to commit the rash act.

At Düsseldorf, on the Rhine, the editor of *Rheinische Zeitung*, has been tried on the charge of inciting to hatred and contempt of the government. But it was urged for the defence that the alleged incriminating article was a reproduction from the columns of the *Westphälische Zeitung*, which had not been objected to by the local authorities where the latter journal is printed (Münster); and as this was duly proved, the defendant was acquitted.

At Bremen, the proprietorship and duty of responsible editor of the *Morgenpost* have been sold by Herr Strack to J. H. Meyer, better known by his *nom de plume* of P. Immermann.

On the 1st inst. a new periodical for "Drama, Art, Music, and Science" was brought out at Dresden under the title of the *Laterna Magica*. The publisher and editor is Dr. Antonelli.

At Leipzig, 129 periodicals and journals are now published.

S.

AUSTRIA.

A new comic paper, called *Der Floh* (The Flea), has lately made its appearance at Pesth. The *Floh* considered itself a good

Austrian, and did not ask permission of the government to establish a branch office at Vienna, as prescribed by law for foreign newspapers. The paternal government, however, thought differently, considering Hungary a "foreign" country, and prosecuted the unoffending *Floh*. But at the trial the tiny culprit's counsel and the judge decided that Hungary formed an integral part of the Austrian Empire, and could not, therefore, be considered as "foreign." The *Floh*, this time, escaped crushing.

The editor of the *Linzer Tagespost* was sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment for scandalising the Catholic Church. The editor of the *Triester Laterne* was acquitted from the charge of exciting rebellion, but fined five florins for "want of attention," whatever that may mean.

The expense of printing the eight official newspapers of Austria is set down in the budget for 1869 at 311,235 florins. The receipts for them are 333,590 florins, the State thus making a net profit of 22,355 florins, of which sum 20,000 florins are delivered from the *Wiener Zeitung* alone.

BAVARIA.

Several changes have taken place in the Press of Munich at the beginning of the year. The *Süddeutsche Presse* (Frübel, editor), has solved its relationship with government, and will in future, as an "independent" organ, very likely espouse the Prussian cause. A new paper is the *Hochdeutsche Postcourier* (Baron von Zwerlein, editor), which will be the exponent of liberal and antiericler South German secessionist views. Another new paper is the *Bayerische Landeszeitung*, which is to be the organ of the moderate liberal party.

BELGIUM.

A new political daily journal has appeared at Brussels, under the name of *L'Avant Garde*, and is edited by Victor Hugo. Among the contributors we find the names François Victor and Charles Hugo, Paul Maurice, Auguste Bacquerie, and Henri de Rochefort.

MM. Jecker, the Mexican banker, and Odysse Barot, a writer on the *Liberté*, have been condemned by the Correctional Tribunal of Brussels to a month's imprisonment and 200f. fine each, for having fought a duel some time ago at Boitsfort, near Brussels. The seconds were acquitted.

HOLLAND.

On the 1st of April a new liberal journal, called *Het Dagblad van Nederland*, will be published at the Hague under very high and influential patronage. The editor is Mynheer Maas Geesteranus, a gentleman of very liberal opinions.

RUSSIA.

In a letter to his friends, M. Ogarew, at St. Petersburg, Herr Alexander Hertzén informs him of his intention to discontinue altogether the publication of his famous *Kolokol*, or the Bell, for some time published in London, in the Russian language, and latterly in Switzerland, in French. "You are aware," he says, "with what zeal I have continued to ring the Bell ever since its first establishment in 1864; but as I am now convinced that its existence is an artificial one, the spirit and energy of work have abandoned me, and I am no longer able to continue it. Without the uninterrupted co-operation of correspondents in Russia, I am now convinced of the impossibility of carrying on a journal in the Russian language in a foreign country, as it loses all interest, and becomes nothing more than a prayer-book for emigrants, teaching them to brood over their misfortunes and wrongs without pointing out the means of redress. The generation of the present day are now able to stand on their own legs; they have arrived at their majority, and no longer require our assistance."

A new journal, in the German language, called the *Deutsche Blätter*, has just been launched at St. Petersburg, edited by Herr Schlauff. It appears twice a week, and contains political articles as well as literary and general intelligence.

The first number of the official journal, the *Government Messenger*, appeared on the 13th. It announces that it will only publish important political facts, communicated to it by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Katkov, the editor of the *Moscow Gazette*, receives a salary of 10,000 silver roubles, and, next to the Emperor himself, is considered the most influential man in Russia.

SWEDEN.

The Swedish Press, which is steadily increasing every year, now numbers 211 journals and periodicals. In addition to the metropolitan papers, there are several provincial ones of more than local importance. Among the latter may be mentioned the *Göteborgsposten*, published at Gothenburg, whose information is so good and trustworthy as to cause it to be much read at Stockholm, and also the *Göteborg Handels och Sjöfart Tidning*, or Gothenburg's commercial and shipping intelligence. Then there are of equal merit the *Oestgöta Correspondenten*, edited by the poet C. F. Ridderstab, the *Jönköpingsbladet*, *Meikes Allchanda*, and the *Snällpost*. The name of that latter must not be supposed to indicate the "snail post," but rather the reverse, as it signifies literally the "quick post." Among the metropolitan journals the new *Stockholmsposten*, lately established and edited by a literary gentleman of the name of Rydberg, appears destined to take high rank, as it is conducted with talent and moderation, and its editorial articles are frequently quoted and even reproduced at full length by the other organs of the Press, both at the capital and in the provinces.

A Press process is reported from Stockholm, an event of not very frequent occurrence in Sweden. The (nominally) responsible editor of the *Suedish Liberty* stands accused of scan. mag. In such cases trial is by a jury of 13, four of which are appointed by the prosecutor, four by the accused, and five by the court. Each side has a right to object to the jurymen of the two other sides. The verdict of this jury alone is conclusive.

SPAIN.

Ever since the 1st of January the official *Gaceta*, of Madrid, appears in a greatly enlarged form, and exhibits a new vignette, representing a female crowned with laurel, and a lion crouching at her feet.

At Madrid a daily paper, of political and general information, is now published in the German language, it being intended chiefly for the use of the Press in Germany. It is called *Die Spanische Correspondenz*, and the names of the editors are Morales and Perez.

A new paper has made its appearance in Madrid, called *La Iglesia* (The Church). Its first number is before me, containing its prospectus. It says that now that the ancient political organization of the church in the Peninsula is about to suffer important transformations, and that Catholic unity is gravely menaced, its mission will be to defend the same, and to combat the intrigues of some and the evil suggestions of others. "The corrupt force of certain books and publications (fortunately very few) begins to inundate the country." "Only in this way can the lapsing from faith, the alteration of customs, and the gradual decadence of intelligence be explained." "The spirit of the masses is estranged by false histories and gratuitous affirmations." "We do not oppose the liberty of printing, but we deplore its abuses, and therefore we hope to excite in the minds of all good Catholics the desire to unite against the prevarications made by translators of foreign books." It will not use the language of sarcasm against such, but of reason and of charity.—*Express Correspondence*.

PORTUGAL.

A new journal is now published at Lisbon, under the somewhat whimsical title of *Vox Feminina*, the editor and publisher being Donna Francisca d'Assis Martinez Wood, a Portuguese lady, married to an Englishman.

ITALY.

The *Zenaro* and the *Italia* have been prosecuted for libel by the Minister of Finance, for having intimated that he had received bribes to promote the tobacco farming job.

TURKEY.

Constantinople papers publish the following official circular communication, addressed to the editor, from the Government Press Bureau, under date of January 6:—"As the proclamations circulated by the Greek Government are evidently intended to inflame the passions of a part of the population, and as the Director of the Affairs of the Press cannot allow the publication

of such culpably violent expressions in any journal published in Turkey, you are hereby required to abstain in future from the reproduction of such incendiary articles, emanating either from the Government offices at Athens or the revolutionary committees formed in foreign countries."

SWITZERLAND.

The first number of a new weekly, in the German language, entitled, *Die Vereinigten Staaten von Europa*, published by the International League for Liberty and Peace, has just been issued at Berne. It pays great attention to the education and wants of the people, enters freely into Swiss politics, and gives its opinion on the social questions of the day.

The total number of the political newspapers of Switzerland is 201, of which 163 are in the German, 31 in the French, 4 in the Italian, and 3 in the Romance language. 35 of them appear in the canton of Berne, 28 in Zürich, 16 in St. Gallen, 9 in the Thurgau, 9 in the canton of Geneva. One political paper, therefore, in that country appears for every 13,000 inhabitants; in the canton of Zürich, one for every 10,000.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14th.

Some time since I informed you that Messrs. Rowall and Co. of this city contemplated the publication of a Newspaper Press Directory. They have, I am informed, collected a vast quantity of information, and will shortly put it to press. It is estimated to form a handsome octavo volume of three hundred pages, and the price will be five dollars. It is to contain lists of all the newspapers and periodicals published in the United States and in Canada and British North America, arranged alphabetically by towns, with the days of issue, politics, form, size, subscription per annum, date of foundation; circulation, names of editor and publisher, &c., the population of the towns, staple manufacture, situation, &c.; classified lists of special papers, &c., &c.

I send you the second number of the *Calogram* for January the first. It is a new spec, devoted to Press matters, edited by E. S. Riley junior, formerly of the *Maryland Democrat*, and is printed at Baltimore.

The Newsboys' lodging-house of New York city, during the three months ending November 1st, furnished 11,766 lodgings and 15,470 meals; 247 newsboys were placed in permanent situations, and 80 boys are found homes every month.

What do you think of the following style of advertising?—

"THE KU KLUX RUM KLAN are well united for a RUM TRIUMPH. Look for startling particulars of the Rum power in the STATE LEAGUE. The largest Radical, first-class family, temperance, general news and market reporting weekly journal in the world, only two dollars per year, and every mother's son should read it. Especial attention given to Youth's and Educational departments, for 'just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined.' Two dollars paid for a good, live Temperance journal, will save money and sons to anxious fathers. Agents wanted. Address, CANSON and GARDNER, SYRACUSE, N. Y."

The following comments on the assassination of Rives Pollard, the editor of *Southern Opinion*, which I reported in my last letter, are from the *Advertiser's Gazette*, and will go far to redeem the character of the Press from a suspicion of any sympathy with so foul a crime:—"A more dastardly act we never knew, and the wretch who could stoop to such means of vengeance should, and will, be branded in the minds of every one retaining a single spark of justice, humanity, or honour. We say nothing here of the 'intelligent jury,' who, in the very face of evidence undeniably clear and convincing, report the deceased to have met his death 'by the discharge of a gun held in the hands of some person to the jury unknown.' Neither do we stop to comment upon the course of the city's mayor, who, acting under his oath of office, admits one of the foulest murderers, whose name has ever disgraced history's page, to a petty straw bail. A precedent to this can nowhere be found, and the whole proceedings savour of a determination upon the part of the authorities to applaud the murderer, and protect him and his deeds from a deserved condemnation. Far be it from us to uphold the unwise course of Mr. Pollard which terminated so abruptly his life. We would, at all times and under all circumstances, vindicate and maintain the freedom of the Press, believing it one of the dearest and

most necessary rights vouchsafed us by the wise founders of our government. Yet when this liberty is abused and the Press is subverted to furthering private ends and needlessly scandalising and imperiling the peace and prosperity of citizens or neighbours, we shall ever bear testimony against it, and gladly chronicle upon such acts the deserved penalty of the law. We have been pained to see the course pursued by many papers in regard to the Richmond assassination. Without reflecting, we are quite sure, upon the consequence of such acts, they, in one way or another, directly or indirectly applaud the assassin and denounce the murdered man. Such a course is fraught with the most dread evil and disastrous results, which, if encouraged in this way, may, sooner or later, fall upon the very heads of those who now call this act of cowardice chivalric, and approve the undertaking. If the bowie knife and revolver, the shot, gun, and bludgeon are to usurp and hold the place of law and justice in one case, it may well do so in another. If an editor can with impunity be murdered in Richmond by an offended demon, why not in New York or Boston as well? The crime would be no greater here than there, and undoubtedly the incentives thereto are equally strong, for in no city are there papers so generally devoted to scandalising both private and public life as in this. For shame, then, upon the paper or publisher who will, in any way, by thought, word or deed, shield or defend a villain, whose vengeance may, when next aroused, be reeked upon his own head, and his body be the next to fall bleeding and lifeless at the assassin's feet. Rather let every one, in town or country, laying aside prejudices and dropping all other controversies, in one body denounce assassinations and call down vengeance upon the cowardly murderer."

A new work, entitled, "Sunshine and Shadow in New York," gives a very interesting memoir of Robert Bonner, of the *Ledger*, with many amusing anecdotes. I send it to you, but fear it is too long for extract.

SOL.

STOP THAT ADVERTISEMENT.—A patron recently advertised in our columns for a printing press. After one insertion, we received from him the following letter:—"Onargo, Ill., Nov. 27th, 1868. Geo. P. Howell & Co.—Gents.—For the Lord's sake stop that advertisement. We have had a hundred letters the past month, and could have bought 20 presses in one day, at from 4 dols. to 400 dols.—Yours, &c., ———."

Miss P. W. Forsyth, daughter of the publisher of the *Liberty* (Mississippi) *Advocate*, has assumed that position herself, after having been engaged for twelve years in the typographical department of the paper. The paper has been published for nearly thirty-three years by her father, whose feeble health has unfitted him for the task.—*Advertisers' Gazette*.

Our correspondent requests us to correct a misprint in our last. Instead of "Mr. Henry Sedley, the editor of the *Round Table* has purchased the entire property of that paper for the *Round Table* Association," it should read, *from the Round Table Association*.—Ed. N. P.

P. O. Day, publisher, of Buffalo, has issued a prospectus for a new Irish-American journal, styled, *The United Irishman*. D. O'Sullivan, of New York city, will be the editor.

A weekly contemporary informs its readers that "Mr. Dorsey Gardner has left the *Round Table*." The statement is inaccurate. Mr. Gardner has sold his stock in the *Round Table* Association, but the paper will continue to have the advantage of that gentleman's literary services.—A daily contemporary informs its readers that "the *Round Table* passes under new management, both in its editorial and business department." This also is inaccurate. The *Round Table*, in each and all its departments, remains permanently under the same management that has directed it since the summer of 1866.

The idea of having an illustrated paper in which the pictures shall be coloured is a novelty indeed, and might well be supposed to be impossible. Yet the new weekly, *The Illuminated Western World*, attempts nothing less, and the proprietors, Messrs. French and Wheat, promise to make their enterprise a permanent one. The first number, which has already been issued, is quite a curiosity in its way, and the illustrations are much better than we should have expected to see them.

Messrs. Pettingill, Bates, and Co., the well-known and enterprising advertising agents, New York, issued the first number of a new family paper, called *Hearth and Home*, on the 1st of

January. It is under the general editorial charge of Mr. Donald G. Mitchell, and Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe will contribute to each number, and have charge of the Home and Fire-side department.

A new illustrated weekly is announced at Boston.

There are 360 religious papers published in the States.

The *Alta Californian* keeps its own lawyer, and has, on an average, one libel suit a week.

The *New York Citizen* has been bought by Peter B. Sweeney for 75,000 dollars.

CUBA.

It is stated that General Dulce has proclaimed liberty of the Press in the above, *Dulce Dux!*

INDIA.

The *Indian Daily News*, is about to start a Saturday evening paper, which will be a rival to the one published by the *Englishman*. The first number will be published at the end of January, and, besides containing a budget of original and miscellaneous literature, will introduce a novel, entitled "Love's Labour Lost, a romance of Anglo-Indian Destiny," which has been specially undertaken for this new candidate for public favour. It is to be hoped that the venture will prove successful, as the subscription is only 12 rupees per annum to non-subscribers to the *Indian Daily News*.

It is very strange that India cannot support either a good magazine or any illustrated paper. A really good magazine, illustrated and containing papers on all the various places which are annually visited, ought to pay. It might contain articles on sport and natural history, as well as scientific papers. But it would require a well-known man to edit it, one who had a very large circle of literary acquaintances.

I notice a canard in the *Times of India*, regarding the publication of an *Indian Monitor*—a purely official journal, to be written and conducted by members of Government, and generally of the Services. Sir William Mansfield and Sir Richard Temple have quite enough to do without editing such things. The report has probably originated from a statement lately made that the authorities were about to remove the restriction, prohibiting its servants from writing to the Press.—*Bombay Gazette*.

SUICIDE OF THE EDITOR OF THE "SINDIAN."—KURRACHEE, DEC. 19.—Mr. N. de Fleurimont, the editor and proprietor of the *Sindian*, was found dead in his chair this morning, having shot himself sometime during the night with a double-barrelled gun.

AUSTRALIA.

A Chinese newspaper, named the *Fi-pao*, which we are told means the "Flying Intelligencer," is now published in Melbourne. The Chinese characters are lithographed and printed.

A handsomely executed supplement in colours to the *Illustrated Sydney News* has just reached us. It represents "Australian Blacks Returning to their Camp," and is a very beautiful and creditable specimen of what can be done in coloured printing in that far distant continent.

NEW ZEALAND.

The Parliament of New Zealand passed an Act in its last session for the Control of the Press, which is scarcely consistent with British dominion.

The Act provides—1st, that from and after the 1st January next every person who has a press or type for printing shall give notice of the same to the Registrar of the Supreme Court, under a penalty of from £5 to £20.

2nd. It imposes a similar penalty for the omission of the imprint of the printer's name and address on the first and last pages of any newspaper or book, for every copy up to 25—thus, for what may be an accidental omission in a single job, a fine of £500. All persons engaged in distributing such are subject to the same penalty as the printer.

3rd. He must, under the same penalty, keep for six months a copy of every paper printed by him, and have written on such copy the name and address of the person employing him in it.

4th. His house (if not registered) may on any day be searched

under warrant from a Justice, by a constable, for printing type or presses; and such, if found, may be carried away, together with all printed papers found there.

6th. No newspaper shall be published by any one after the 1st January next, until the same be registered, and oath taken by the parties concerned as to their being the several proprietors, printers, and publishers of the same, and their oath to be conclusive evidence against them in any action at law respecting the paper, even after their connexion with it has ceased, unless a second oath has been taken and registered to that effect.

7th. No proof is to be required in any case of a paper having been purchased from any particular printer, nor of his having published it, beyond the imprint.

Of the last astounding clause, the *Hawkes' Bay Times* remarks:—"The making of the imprint a conclusive proof of a paper being printed by the person therein named, is so evident a piece of injustice, laying, as it does, a person open to the malice of evil-disposed individuals, as to be altogether repugnant to the spirit of the British Constitution."

The first No. of a New Zealand *Punch* appeared at Auckland on the 14th of November.

Correspondence.

THE PRESS IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—In this month's issue there is an extract from an American paper that would lead one to suppose newspapers are scarce in the far East. From Japan I have had copies of *Japan Times*, *Japan Herald*, *Japan Gazette*, and *Japan Punch*,—one or more being daily.—Yours, &c.

JAS. H. COATES.

7, Bishopston-street, Sunderland, Jan. 5, 1869.

THE WORD "NEWS"—ITS NUMBER?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—It has always been assumed that the word "news" was singular—thus we write, "The news from Spain is alarming." I have no authority at hand to trace the custom to, but I know it has always been so written. Latterly, however, I have observed that the Paris correspondent of the *Times* uses the word indifferently in the singular and plural number—even in the course of one sentence. Which is correct?

Yours, &c.,

A WRITER OF NEWS.

[Paris correspondents have a liking for small eccentricities. The representative of "Jupiter junior" is renowned for his private *tête-à-têtes* with great personages. The *Times* resident may desire to show his disregard of conventionalities; but the noun is singular, for all that.—ED. N. P.]

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, DUBLIN.—JAN 1st.

Judgment was given on the applications for attachments against three of the principal Liberal newspapers in the North of Ireland (the *Whig*, the *Star*, and the *Examiner*), for contempt of court, in publishing comments on the Belfast election petition whilst it was pending. It was likewise alleged that the comments, specimens of which have already appeared in these columns, "prejudiced the case of the petitioner, and obstructed the course of justice." The junior judge, as is usual when the Court is divided, delivered his judgment first.

Judge Lawson said he had no doubt that the Court, under the act of last session, possessed jurisdiction in the case; but he was clearly of opinion that they could not apply the same rule in election petitions as in ordinary cases. An election petition was a matter in which the public had an interest, and a petitioner against an election must not be too sensitive—he should be prepared to have all his proceedings criticised in a hostile manner; and so long as the criticism of these acts was not indulged in through private malice a public journal was at perfect liberty to comment on them. He was, therefore, of opinion that it was ab-

solutely impossible in the case of election petitions to lay down the rule that a public commentary on the petition was to be prohibited if fairly and honestly written. The House of Commons had never prohibited free discussion by a journalist of election petitions, and he thought that Court would not be warranted in so doing. His judgment would be, in the first instance, to refuse the application, with costs; but he could not do that, as there was a difference of opinion amongst the members of the Court. As to the articles in the *Northern Star* and *Ulster Examiner*, they were, so to speak, of a less aggravated character than that in the *Whig* of the 21st, and seemed to be perfectly innocent articles; and in the case of those two journals he should certainly be for refusing the application, with costs.

Judge Morris said that, even allowing for the liberty of free discussion, the article in the *Whig*, in his opinion, greatly exceeded the limits of anything that the Court ought to pass over. He thought that the case of the *Northern Whig* came within the rule of strict law, and in his judgment Mr. Finlay should not be attached, but should be admonished, and ordered to pay the costs of the motion. As regarded the *Northern Star* and the *Ulster Examiner*, he would refuse the motion in their case, because he did not consider that the articles strictly came within the rule of law.

Mr. Justice Keogh concurred in the judgment of Judge Lawson, and he had no hesitation in saying that these articles had not transcended the law of fair commentary, and, therefore, he would in like manner with his brother Lawson, dismiss the applications, and with costs. The Court should expand the rule laid down in civil actions. They should expand according to the principle of the act in which they lived. No single instance had been produced in which a person interested had ever gone to the House of Commons and complained of a public journalist commenting upon a petition. That appeared to him to contain the whole germ of the arguments in this case. In the celebrated case of Warren Hastings comments had been made by public journalists pending the trial, and yet no application had been made to attach them. He held that public comments on great public questions, even when they transcended polite or elegant writing, should not be visited by penal punishment, and such a course would be always resisted by him. He therefore agreed with his brother Lawson, and would say rule refusing the motion, and with costs.

Chief Justice Monahan regretted that the Court were not unanimous on a question of such public interest. He held that the public journalist had a right to discuss every public matter; but he did not think the journalist had a right to discuss the merits or demerits of an action pending in that court, although the question might be of a public nature. The press should have limit to its power, and he thought while an action was pending in that court no one should enter upon its merits or demerits so as to prejudice a fair trial of it. He admired the able judgment of his brother Lawson, whose accession to that court he was proud of, but he differed from him as to his opinion upon the right of a journalist to discuss cases which were pending in that court, whether they were of a public or private character. The article of the *Northern Whig* clearly went beyond anything that was justifiable in relation to the pending trial. In that case there was contempt of Court, but having regard to the affidavit of Mr. Finlay he would, if sitting there as a single judge, refuse to have done more than admonish him. The Court being divided in opinion, the result in that case would be "no rule" made on the motion. With regard to the other two cases, the *Star* and *Examiner*, they were all unanimous that there should be no rule. Accordingly the result of the three cases was no rule and no costs.

JANUARY 19.

(Before the CHIEF JUSTICE, and Judges MORRIS and LAWSON.)

MAWE V. PIGOTT.

Mr. Butt, Q.C. (with whom was Mr. O'Loghlen), applied for liberty to file several defences. The action was brought by the Rev. Mr. Mawe, P.P., of Tralee, to recover damages for an alleged libel published in the defendant's newspaper, the *Irishman*. The alleged libel was contained in an article which the plaintiff complained insinuated that in certain speeches made by The O'Donoghue during his canvass, and by the plaintiff, who was in his interest, they had declared that men who had given up their lives

and liberties for the cause of Ireland were guilty of infamous conduct and should be prosecuted. The defendant desired to plead a traverse of the defamatory sense imputed, that it was no libel, that the article was a fair commentary on a matter of public interest. He also wished to demur to the summons and plaint on the ground that it disclosed no cause of action. Mr. Clarke, Q.C., and Mr. Nelligan opposed the motion. The court granted the application, and directed that the demurrer should be argued before the case was tried.

BANKRUPTCY COURT.—JAN. 5.

(Before Mr. Commissioner BACON.)

IN RE PHILIP WILLIAM PERFITT.

The bankrupt, who is well known as a lecturer, and was at one time a candidate for the borough of Finsbury, applied for his release from custody, where he was detained at the suit of Mr. Low, of the firm of Seale and Low, bankers, Leicester-square. The bankrupt describes himself in his petition, which is filed in *forma pauperis*, as of Cumming-street, Pentonville, previously of Vernon-square, King's-cross, and other addresses, author and journalist. He ascribes his failure to his being arrested and thereby prevented from completing arrangements which would have enabled him to pay his creditors.

There was no opposition, and

Upon the application of Mr. Holt, the bankrupt's release was granted.

JANUARY 6.

(Before Mr. Registrar ROCHE.)

IN RE J. S. SNEATH.

The bankrupt was a newspaper proprietor, printer, and publisher, formerly of Boston, Lincolnshire, since of Jermyn-street, St. James's, and other addresses, now out of business. He assigns as the causes of his failure "want of capital, getting involved in heavy law suits, and sale of the *Lincolnshire Herald*, &c., by the mortgagees." The debts are returned at £1,723 8s. 6d.

This was the first sitting. Mr. M. Barnes, accountant, of Weavers' Hall, Basinghall-street, was appointed assignee, and Mr. Chidley is the solicitor under the proceedings.

JANUARY 13.

Mr. Edmund H. Yates, the well-known author and journalist, applied for an order of discharge from debts amounting to upwards of £7,000. He was in receipt of a yearly salary of £520 as a clerk in the General Post Office, and his literary earnings were considerable. The assignees applied that Mr. Yates should set aside a portion of his income towards the liquidation of his debts, and reference was made to the recent Treasury minute as rendering that course desirable. It appeared that on certain of his literary productions Mr. Yates incurred losses; and on a drama entitled "Tame Cats," which had occupied six months in its preparation, he realised a profit of £16 only. The Court granted the order of discharge, on a proposal being made by the bankrupt, and accepted by the creditors, for the prymont of £100 per year, with one fifth of any increase of salary that he might obtain.

On the 21st, the Lord Chief Justice, with Justices Hannen and Hayes, granted a rule, calling on the proprietor of the *Leicester Chronicle* to show cause why a criminal information should not be filed against him for libel. At the last election for South Leicestershire, a Liberal named Smith was summoned before the magistrates for an assault on a voter of the other side, who found him guilty and inflicted a fine. The *Chronicle* then had a series of articles on the case, attacking the bench, and affirming that the county was at the mercy of a Tory magistracy. The Court thought these comments amounted to more than legitimate criticism, and granted a rule.

THE *Native Virginian* advertises for a collector in the following terms:—Wanted at this office, an able-bodied, hard-featured, bad-tempered, not-to-be-put-off, and not-to-be-backed-down, freckled-faced young man, to collect for this paper. Must furnish his own horse, saddle-bags, pistols, whiskey, bowie-knife, and cow-hide. We will furnish the accounts. To such we promise constant and laborious employment.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. GEORGE SHEIL.

We feel deep sorrow at having to announce the death of Mr. George Sheil, a member of the reporting staff of the *Cork Examiner*, and younger brother of the distinguished artist, Mr. Edward Sheil, R.H.A. Though a very young man he had been for many years connected with that journal, which he joined when a mere boy. On a staff which has furnished many names of distinction to metropolitan literature, there was hardly ever a member of more promise. His perception, artistic and literary, was wonderfully fine, and he had the gift of a fertile eloquence which enriched even the poorest theme. Perhaps even more remarkable than all this was a vein of humour, rich and overflowing, but whose ample geniality deprived it of aught that could even in the slightest degree wound. Many charming poems of his have appeared in *Once a Week* and other London periodicals. For some time, however, his literary activity has been impeded by ill-health. Consumption had implanted its fatal seeds in his constitution, and for the past couple of years his health was delicate and his appearance told of decayed physical powers. He ardently cherished the hope of being able some day to make his way to the great mart of talent, and live a purely literary life. It was, however, sadly easy to see that the hope was utterly illusory, and though, with great sorrow, it was with no surprise his friends learned within a couple of months that his disease had received an alarming development. Its progress, long delayed, was at last rapid, and on Sunday morning, January 8rd, he peacefully closed a life which at one time had seemed full of brightness and promise.

MR. WALTER WILLIS HASSALL.

It is our painful duty to record the unfortunate death of Mr. W. W. Hassall, part proprietor of the *Weymouth Guardian*. The deceased formerly resided at Wells. He was employed as a clerk in the office of Mr. Foster, solicitor, and whilst filling that capacity was the Wells correspondent to the *Shepton Mallet Journal*. By energy and perseverance he qualified himself for the responsible post of newspaper reporter, and left Wells to take a situation on the *Dorset County Chronicle*. He here made rapid progress, and was engaged for the more responsible position of resident reporter for the *Southern Times* at Weymouth. This situation he filled with credit to himself and his employer for some years, till he undertook the editorship of the *Weymouth Guardian*. To him the *Newspaper Press* has been more than once under obligations for contributions of interest, as he was one of its earliest occasional correspondents. He had been afflicted with erysipelas, which affected his brain, and while walking on the railway at Weymouth, was knocked down and killed by a passing train. He leaves an affectionate wife and young family to lament his loss. His ever genial and vivacious disposition will long be remembered by a large circle of sorrowing friends both at Weymouth and Wells. He was a good, kind husband, a warm-hearted, cheerful friend, and an industrious, persevering man. His untimely end is deeply lamented by all who knew him.

MR. RICHARD ROBERTS.

It is with extreme sorrow and regret that we record the decease of Mr. Richard Roberts, late editor of the *Dorset County Chronicle*. Mr. Roberts was a native of Shrewsbury, where his literary career commenced as reporter for the *Shrewsbury Journal*. In the year 1857 he was appointed resident reporter of the *Dorset County Chronicle*. Mr. Roberts was elevated to the position of editor when the *Chronicle* passed into its present proprietorship, at the close of the year 1864, since which time he has conducted with much ability the whole of the literary business connected with that journal. For some months past his health manifested symptoms of failing, though not the slightest fear was entertained of any serious illness. The last active duty he performed in connection with the Press was to report the proceedings of a meeting of Mr. Guest's supporters when that gentleman was first brought forward in the Conservative interest at Poole. It is feared that his passing from the heated atmosphere of the Town Hall on that occasion into the chilly influences of the external air accelerated his end, for on the succeeding night he was attacked with

violent congestion of the lungs, that aroused the alarm of his friends and medical adviser. About a fortnight or three weeks prior to his death he rallied, and was sufficiently convalescent to take a little outdoor exercise; but a reaction ensued, followed by bronchitis, to which, with the complication of heart disease, he succumbed. His loss is deplored by a widow and three young children, we regret to say, in straitened circumstances. His mortal remains were conveyed to their last resting place, in the cemetery at Dorchester, when the esteem in which he was held amongst the staff employed on the firm was manifested by their following him to the grave.

MR. C. B. WELD.

The death of Mr. Charles (Richard) Weld, who was well known in literary circles by his valuable contributions to science and literature, occurred at his residence, Newbridge Hill, near Bath, on the 15th January. Mr. Weld was the second son of the late Isaac Weld, of Dublin, and received his early education in France; but studied for the bar after his return to England, and always retained the designation of "barrister-at-law" in his works, though he never practised. For some years he held the office of secretary and librarian to the Royal Society, and appears from a very early period to have contributed to the best periodical literature of the day, his later articles, however, being chiefly found in the *Athenaeum* and *Fraser's Magazine*. Having taken an active interest in the International Exhibitions of Industry and Art in London, he received a commission in 1867 to visit Paris, and report on the "Philosophical Instruments and Apparatus for Teaching Science," exhibited at the collection there. His report appeared *in extenso* in the *Illustrated London News* of October 6, 1867. Mr. Weld was always careful, when he delivered lectures or read papers to various institutions, that accurate reports should be given to the public through the medium of the newspaper Press. Mr. Weld's age was 55. He leaves a widow and daughter, the former being the niece of Sir John Franklin, the Arctic navigator, and sister of Mrs. Alfred Tennyson, wife of the Poet Laureate. Mr. Weld's works embrace—"The History of the Royal Society," published in 1847; "Anvergne, Piedmont, and Savoy," in 1848; "A Vacation Tour in the United States and Canada," in 1854; "A Vacation Tour in Brittany," in 1856; "A Vacation Tour in Ireland," in 1858; "The Pyrenees, East and West," in 1859; "The Highlands, Arcadia, and Skye," in 1860; "Sketches in India," in 1862; "A Winter in Rome," in 1865; "Florence, the New Capital of Italy," in 1867; besides which he was the author of several pamphlets on subjects connected with Arctic explorations.

Home Subjects.

MISS BRADDON, author of "Lady Audley's Secret," &c., has joined the staff of the *Saturday Review*.

AMONG the births of the new year were the *A B C Advertiser* and *St. Crispin*, the organ of the boot and shoe trade.

CHICAGO reporters now call a dentist a "tusk hoister," and a blacksmith a "vulcanist."

A new linguistic journal for the cultivation of the Celtic tongue has been just started at Manchester, under the title of the *Celtic Journal and Educator*.

THE "IMPERIAL REVIEW," a first-class Conservative weekly paper, started on the 5th January, 1867, issued its last number on December 26th, 1868.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND copies of the London daily papers are sent out every morning from Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's establishment alone.

A NEW LONDON DAILY PAPER is talked of, the distinguishing feature of which is to be that all the writers will sign their articles with their real names.

DAILY PAPERS.—There are at present printed in the United Kingdom 89 daily papers, of which 22 appear in London, 41 in the provinces, one in Wales, 11 in Scotland, 13 in Ireland, and one in the Channel Islands.

THE "NORTH GERMAN CORRESPONDENT."—We have received from Berlin No. 1 of a sheet bearing the above title, and dated January 16th. It is to be published every Wednesday and Satur-

day, price six shillings monthly. It is hoped to tighten the bonds between England and Germany by a more free interchange of sentiments.

THE "TIMES."—The *Printers' Circular* of Philadelphia is responsible for the following statements:—"The *Times* uses eleven tons of paper a day. It pays £8 per column for outside contributions, but rejects nine-tenths of the matter offered."

NEWSVENDORS' BENEVOLENT AND PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.—Mr. Charles Dickens will preside at the dinner to be given on behalf of the funds of the Newsvendors' Benevolent and Provident Institution at Freemasons' Tavern on the 26th of April next.

A TYPE-SETTING MACHINE, it is said, has been invented which works by electricity, so that a reporter, by the use of connecting wires, may put his report into type, though hundreds of miles off.—*Advertisers' Gazette*.

A NEW WEEKLY PAPER is announced to appear shortly as an organ of opinion on Eastern affairs, to be called the *Asiatic*. It is to be published on Saturdays by Bates, Hendry, and Co., of 4, Old Jewry, at the price of sixpence.

THE "ECHO," the long announced halfpenny evening paper, which made its appearance on the 8th of December, in the inevitable "old face" type, on toned paper, was, on the 12th ultimo, increased in size from four to eight folio pages. It is said that five hundred boys were engaged to sell it in the streets, and dressed in uniform, with the title of the paper on their caps.

A NEW READER.—Mr. P. Phillips, who has been for some years connected with the Australian Press, and whose father was a well-known London journalist has made his *début* as a reader in London at the Victoria Hall, Westbourne-grove, Bayswater. Report speaks very favourably of Mr. Phillips's powers, and the programme is at least promising.

THE MAGISTRACY.—THE PRESS.—The Lord Chancellor and the Lords Justices have appointed Maurice Lenihan, Esq., proprietor of the *Limerick Reporter and Vindicator*, a magistrate for the city of Limerick, much to the gratification of the public. Mr. Lenihan is a member of the Corporation, and author of the *History of Limerick*.

SALE OF THE "KENTISH CHRONICLE."—On the 11th ult., the printing materials belonging to Messrs. Goulden and Cannon, of Canterbury, together with the copyright of a newspaper called the *Kentish Chronicle*, were sold by auction by order of the Court of Chancery. The *Kentish Chronicle* was the title of an old Canterbury paper, which had been dead for very many years before Mr. Goulden appropriated it to one of his semi-London printed periodicals. The biddings for the copyright were started by Mr. Goulden at £1, and ultimately it was knocked down to Mr. Wm. Cannon for the sum of £45.

THE CONTINENTAL TELEGRAPHS.—The new telegraphic arrangements for many of the European countries came in operation on January 1st. From what we can understand, the companies contracted together, so as to afford special advantages for forwarding of messages, which will be sent in any language. The contracting parties were the directors of telegraphs of North Germany, Austria and Hungary, France, Spain, Italy, Russia, Norway, Sweden, Baden, Bavaria, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Greece, Portugal, Wurtemberg, Switzerland, Turkey, and most of the other European countries where the telegraph lines are controlled by the Government authorities. The French franc was adopted as the monetary unit for all payments and settlements. The minimum of messages was fixed at twenty words.

THE LIBEL BILL.—We are in a position to state that Sir Colman O'Loughlin intends persevering with his Libel Bill next session. Precluded himself from introducing it by reason of his holding office, he has procured the services of an unofficial friend, and the measure, which will probably contain some additional amendments, will be vigorously pushed. The fortunes of the bill have, as will be recollected, been somewhat chequered. It was first introduced into the House of Commons in the session of 1865, but was not proceeded with beyond the first reading. It was reintroduced, with alterations and additions, in the following session, and was carried into the Commons by a large majority; but there was not time to carry it through the House of Lords. In the session of 1868 the bill was again introduced and discussed; but the pressure of public business again stopped the way. The newspaper Press is deeply interested in the success of the mea-

sure, to which it is to be hoped no new obstacle will interpose itself.—*London Scotsman*.

WHEN trade grew slack, and notes fell due, the merchant's face grew long and blue, his dreams were troubled through the night, with sheriff's bailiffs all in sight. At last his wife unto him said, "Rise up at once, get out of bed, and get your paper, ink and pen, and say these words unto all men—'My goods I wish to sell to you, and to your wife and daughters, too; my prices are so very low, that each will buy before they go.'" He did as his good wife advised, and in the paper advertised. Crowds came and bought of all he had, his notes were paid, his dreams were glad, and he will tell you to this day, how well did printers' ink repay. He told us with a knowing wink, how he was saved by printers' ink.

An old bachelor, who had become melancholy and poetical, wrote some verses for the village paper, in which he expressed the hope that the time would soon come when he should "—rest calmly within a shroud, with a weeping willow by my side;" but, to his inexpressible horror, it came out in print,—

"When I shall rest calmly within a shawl,
With a weeping widow by my side."

BANKRUPTS.

PERFITT, PHILIP WILLIAM, Cumming-street, Pentonville, journalist.
MORRIS, MARY, Stratford, newsvendor.
MATHER, CHARLES, Winchester-street, Pimlico, newspaper reporter.

PARTNERSHIP DISSOLVED.

JENKINS and HOWALL, Bexley-heath, newspaper proprietors.

Obituary.

DALLOS, DESIRE, many years a Press writer, and father of the chief editor of the *Moniteur Universel*, at Paris, on the 15th January.

DEMOYERS, LOUIS, at Paris, aged 66, founder of the *Charivari*, and for 32 years editor of the literary department of the *Sicle*.

FOSTER, NEWELL A., editor of the *Portland Press*, at Boston, Nov. 23rd.
HASSALL, WALTER WILLIS, of the firm of Hassall and Atkins, proprietors of the *Weymouth Guardian*, and an occasional correspondent of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*.

JONES, ERNEST, on the 26th ult., founder, and for eight years editor, of the *People's Paper*, Chartist organ.

LYON, J. M., proprietor of the *Daily News*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S., of apoplexy.

MULDOY, HENRY MICHAEL, of the *Toronto Telegraph*, Nov. 18th, aged 32.
RAFFERTY, JAMES, of the *Allentown Democrat*, and one of the founders of the *Monroe Democrat*, of Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.

ROBERTS, R., editor of the *Dorset County Chronicle*, of congestion of the lungs.

SEEL, GEORGE, reporter on the staff of the *Cork Examiner*, and contributor to "Once a Week" and other London periodicals, of consumption.

Notes and Queries.

THE "LADY'S OWN PAPER."—We have received a *fac-simile* of the first page of this paper reduced by photography, which compares very favourably with our other specimens.

W. J. M.—You should have received 28 pages. It has been our practice to give eight additional pages with each of our December Nos. In future, we will take your hint and notify it over the leader. Show this to your agent.

R. M.—Our aim is to supply a current history of journalism all over the world. Our indefatigable foreign correspondents deserve the compliment you pay them.

A MEMBER OF THE PRESS GANG will be communicated with privately if he will send us his address. Such matters are not adapted for open discussion.

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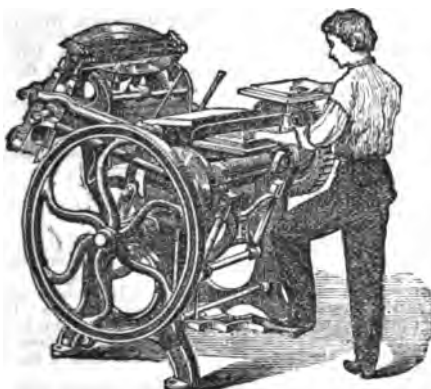
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TESTIMONIALS.

31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

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Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

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We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
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6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

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Your Machine deserves a large sale.

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Halifax, 23rd October, 1867.

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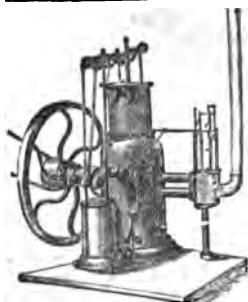
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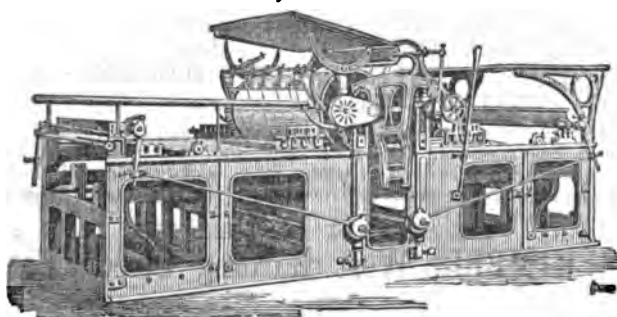
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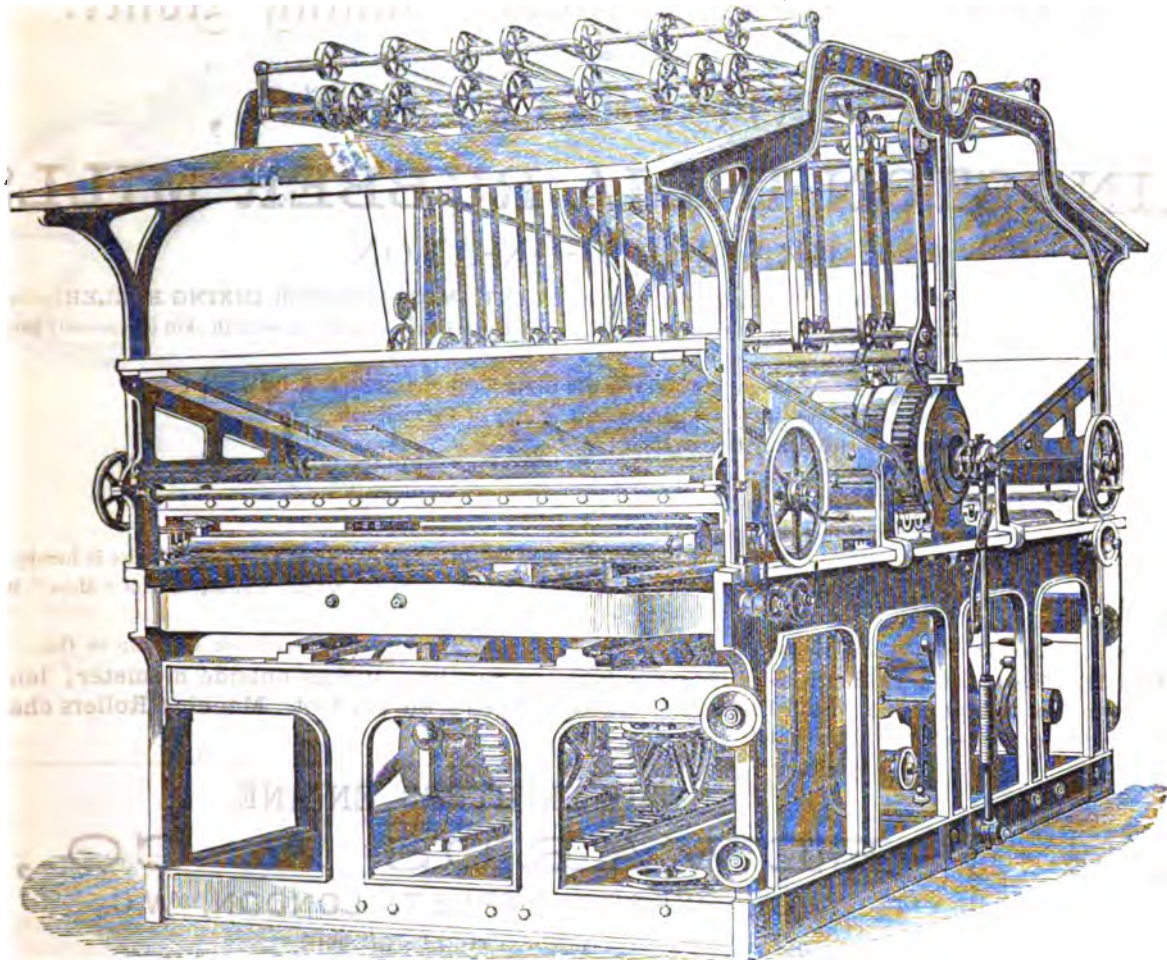
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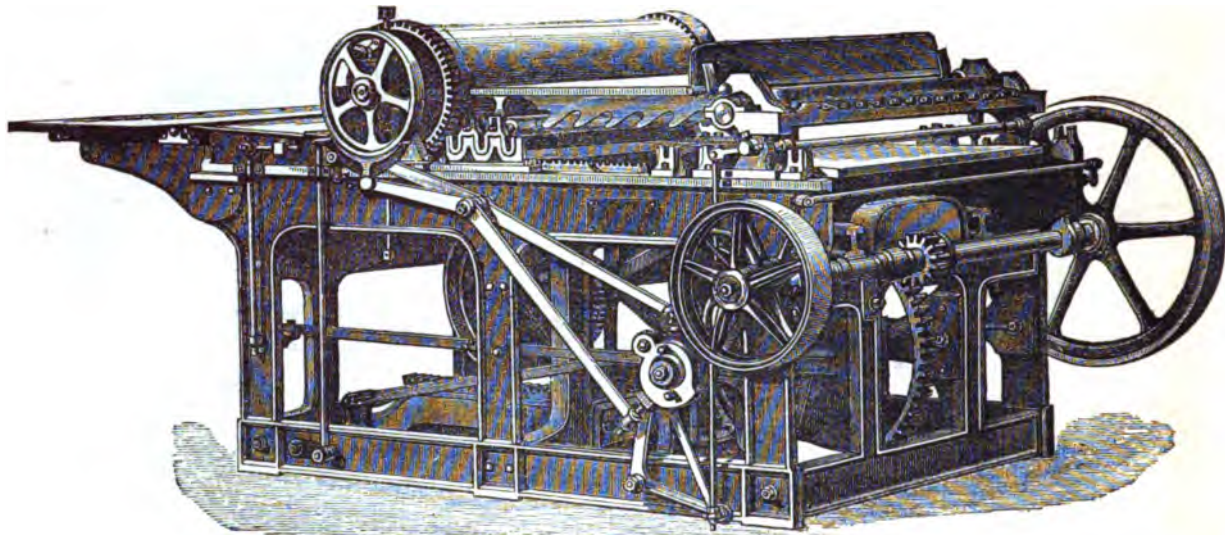
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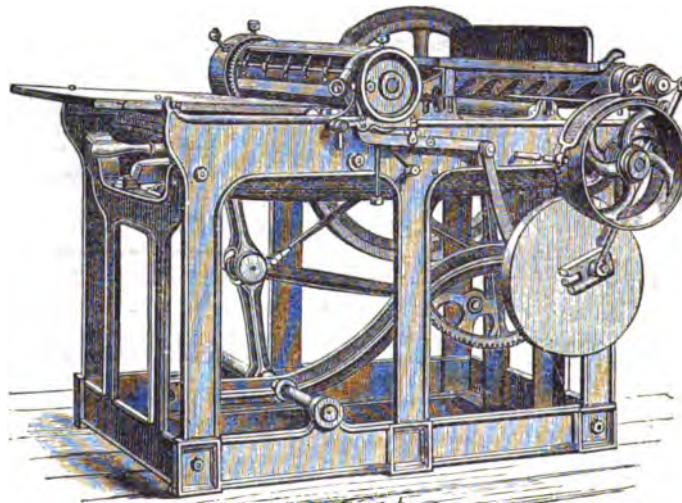
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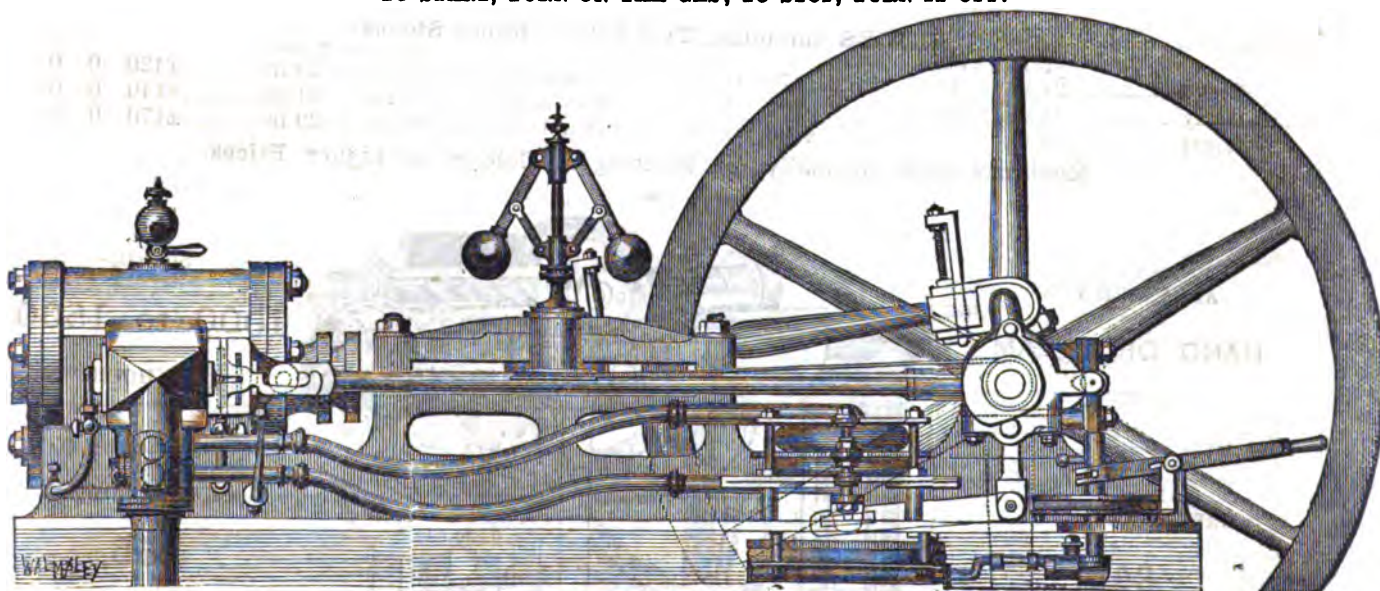
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A CURIOUS proposal comes to us from Philadelphia. It is that newspapers should be used in public schools as a means of education in place of fragmentary collections of poems, dialogues, orations, &c., which have hitherto been considered the most appropriate reading matter. It is urged in favour of the suggestion that Congressional debates, state affairs, wars and their causes, accidents, floods and fires, great public improvements, &c., are subjects upon which the youthful mind will feed much more profitably than upon beautiful orations or pathetic fancy writing. We very much doubt it, and see much force in the following remarks of the *Saturday Review*:—"American newspapers, outside of New York, nowhere rise above the provincial Press in England, and it is terrible to think of one of the numerous *Heralds* or *Mercuries* of our native land taking flesh and walking abroad among us. A youth who had learnt politics by spouting the 'editorials' of a provincial newspaper, whose imagination had been enriched by its poet's corner, and whose miscellaneous information was derived from the column in which one line informs us that a melon has been raised in Pottsville, Pa., measuring two feet in circumference, and the next that seventeen murders had been committed in Texas in ten days, would have a singularly constituted mind. It is strange that any human being should propose to saturate the youthful intellect with third-rate newspapers, and to sink the fact that any greater masters of literary composition ever existed than those who provide daily intelligence for the inhabitants of Philadelphia."

The scheme would not be palatable to English parents, even if none but first class journals were employed. What would a Conservative paterfamilias say to his son being inoculated at school with the politics of the *Daily News*? How vehemently would a Radical "Father of a Family" protest in the *Times* against his boys going through a course of the *Manchester Guardian*? The idea has the merit of ingenuity and, we believe, originality, but it is attended with too many obvious and insuperable objections to be practicable in this country, whatever may be its fate in Philadelphia.

"Even in bigoted and intellectually-degraded Spain there is sufficient manhood to burst the bonds of oppression, when they are drawn too tightly, and sweep Queen, priest, and minister to the winds." These were the prophetic words we made use of in the course of a review of the Continental Press in our leading article

of March, 1867. How completely and literally they have been fulfilled we need not remind our readers. In less than two years after they were written, "Queen, priest, and minister," were in flight across the border, and are, all three, now indebted to France for shelter. But how about the Press—what is its position now? It was then described as "strangled." Has it arisen to a new and more honourable life under the altered circumstances? We fear not, at present; but it is yet early, and there is time, as there decidedly is room, for improvement. At first we were told that the editors were obtaining the honours of office under the new Government so rapidly that there was a risk of none being left to conduct a paper. The *Times*' correspondent has lately given us a dreary description of the state of affairs, and our own information from other sources too fully confirms it. The only point which is left to us to dwell upon hopefully is that, as with us, the more violent journals of either side seem to find the least favour with the people, and fall to the ground after a turbulent career of a few weeks, or even a few days.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

VI.—EVIDENCE OF MALICE.

ALL journalists know that in actions for libel, malice is implied. This has been called "legal malice," as distinguished from actual malice, or malice aforethought. In the case of *Harle v. Catherall*, the question of actual malice arose and underwent much discussion, both at *nisi prius* and *in banco*. The action, which was brought against the proprietors of the *Hexham Courant*, was tried at the Summer Assizes for Northumberland, held at Newcastle-upon-Tyne in July, 1866, before Mr. Baron Martin and a special jury. The case arose out of a correspondence, published in the *Courant*, relating to the plaintiff's conduct as waywarden of the township of Corbridge. It consisted of several anonymous letters addressed to the editor, impugning the plaintiff's conduct, and of replies from the plaintiff justifying himself. During the first part of the correspondence, the plaintiff applied to the defendants for the name of the anonymous writer of the first letter, threatening "to have the law upon them" if the name was refused. One of the defendants said to him, in reply, "It's no use having the law upon us—take half a column of the paper and pitch into him next week." The plaintiff availed himself of this suggestion, and "pitched into" the anonymous writer in the next number of the *Courant*. This was followed by other anonymous letters attacking the plaintiff, and by letters from the plaintiff in reply, and here matters rested for about ten months, when there appeared in the *Courant* a letter from an anonymous correspondent, imputing to the plaintiff that he had paved and drained his own premises with the public money. It ran thus: "If our unworthy waywarden, who is supposed to do nothing but what is right and just, thinks fit, after being placed in that responsible position, to pave and drain his own premises with the public money, it is time that we raise the cry, and say, 'Well done, thou bad and unfaithful servant, thou hast not been careful over few things, so we will not make thee lord over many things.' I do sincerely hope that a sufficient number of ratepayers will attend the vestry meeting, and not allow this individual to bring in his party for the purpose of carrying their scheme by a large majority. —A RATEPAYER." This was the principal libel set forth in the declaration. The "Ratepayer" was an unknown correspondent of the defendants, who made no inquiry into the truth, or otherwise, of the imputation against the plaintiff.

The defence was rested on the ground that the plaintiff, as waywarden, was a public man, and, as such, his conduct was fairly open to public comment. It was contended also that as he had availed himself of the defendants' columns to reply to his assailants, he had sufficiently vindicated his character and conduct, and was not now entitled to claim pecuniary compensation from the defendant. To this, however, it was answered that the plaintiff had discontinued his correspondence in the *Courant*

for many months before the libel was published. Mr. Baron Martin, in summing up the case to the jury, said he knew of no limit to the right of comment by the Press on the conduct of a man holding a public office, unless such comment was made maliciously. If a person thought fit to publish what he knew to be false in regard to a public man, then the privilege of comment ceased to protect him, and he became responsible for what he published. He (the learned judge) thought that if a newspaper published a document which contained a statement injurious to the character or conduct of a person mentioned in such document; and if it turned out that the statement was false, and that it had been published, without any pains having been taken to ascertain anything about it—namely, whether it was true or false, that would be held to be a malicious publication. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, with £20 damages. But the learned Baron reserved leave to the defendants to move to set the verdict aside upon the question whether neglect on the part of the defendants to inquire into the truth of the statement sent to them for publication amounted to evidence of malice. Accordingly, in Michaelmas Term, 1866, an application was made to the Court of Queen's Bench to set the verdict aside. But the Court refused to disturb it. The Lord Chief Justice said, "A man must not use the occasion of public discussion for the gratification of personal malice; and the publication of imputations of corrupt conduct without any inquiry as to their truth, and without, so far as appeared, any belief in their truth, and with no ground for such belief, coupled with a persistence in the charge after contradiction and explanation, was certainly evidence of malice."

We may mention here, upon the question of negligence to ascertain the truth or falsehood of the statement published, it is laid down by Addison, and other text writers, "that if a man has the means, by inquiry, of ascertaining whether the charge is true or false, and neglects to make such inquiry, or any effort to arrive at the truth, his belief can hardly be said to be an honest belief, for whoever publishes and circulates in writing opinions and statements unfavourable to another, ought to be prepared to show that he had some reasonable ground for such opinions and statements." If this be not shown, there is evidence to go to a jury of a malicious intention, in the absence of any other proof, of actual malice. The late Lord Wensleydale observed, in an old case, that "where a communication is fairly made by one person to another, in the discharge of some public or private duty, whether legal or moral, or in the conduct of his own affairs, in matters where his interest is concerned, the occasion prevents the inference of malice which the law draws from unauthorised communications, and affords a qualified defence, depending upon the absence of actual malice." And the late Lord Campbell, in another case, laid it down that "if the occasion be such as repels the presumption of malice, the communication is privileged, and the plaintiff must then, if he can, give evidence of actual malice; if he gives no such evidence, it is the office of the judge to say that there is no question for the jury." In the present case, however, the defendants gave no evidence of their having taken any step to ascertain the truth of the statement, and therefore the presumption of malice was not repelled; while the plaintiff, on his part, put himself into the witness-box, and gave emphatic evidence that the statement was untrue.

[We give this case as one likely to be useful to journalists, and not to be found in any of the law reports, and only imperfectly reported in the newspapers at the time.]

SOME MORE EXTRACTS FROM MY NOTE-BOOK.

BY ONE OF THE OLD SCHOOL.

JOSIAH CONDER, for twenty-three years editor of the *Patriot* newspaper, and at one time proprietor and editor of the *Eclectic Review*, was the son of a London bookseller, and grandson of the president of the old college at Homerton. He was born in 1791. His first publication consisted of some juvenile contributions to Dr. Aikins's *Athenaeum*, which were afterwards republished in a collected volume, under the title of "The Associate Minstrels," and reached a second edition. He died at St. John's Wood, on the 27th of December, 1866, in his sixty-sixth year.

"THE EXAMINER."—On the retirement of Albany Fonblanque from the editorial chair of the *Examiner* to accept an appointment in the statistical department of the Board of Trade, Mr. John Forster succeeded him. He had been an early contributor to the *Daily News*, and other journals, and is well known as the author of a clever "Life of Goldsmith." He, too, received a Government appointment, becoming, in 1856, secretary to the Commissioners in Lunacy, with a salary of £800 a year.

LALOR, of the *Morning Chronicle*.—During Sir John Easthope's proprietorship of the *Morning Chronicle*, it was edited for some years by John Lalor, an Irishman by birth, and Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin. He retired from the post on Sir John's disposal of the paper, in a shattered state of health, occasioned by overwork, and died, aged 42, at his residence at Hampstead, on Sunday, the 27th of January, 1857.

The "NEW TIMES" and its unfortunate history were nearly forgotten, when its editor and proprietor, once known by the sobriquet of "Doctor Slop," died, as Sir John Stoddart, at his residence, in Brompton-square, only twelve years ago, at the advanced age of eighty-one. His unfortunate speculation, I believe, severed his connection with the Press, and he became successively Chief Justice of Malta and Judge of the Vice-Admiralty Court, on which latter occasion he received his knighthood. He was the eldest son of Lieutenant J. Stoddart, R.N., and took his LL.D. degree at Christchurch, Oxford, and was early in life a prominent advocate of Doctors Commons.

The "MORNING STAR" appeared on the 24th of March, 1856. The *Saturday Review*, then in its infancy, patted the new comer on the back, and predicted that it would be a formidable rival to the *Times* (!).

LITERARY CRITICS.—Twenty years ago, there was only one literary critic for the *Times*. Samuel Philips filled the post for years, and was succeeded by Lucas, of the Inner Temple, the first editor of the *Press* newspaper. To him, I think, succeeded Dallas, *et alii*.

JAMES WILSON, the founder of the *Economist*, is a striking example of "rising by the Press." His father was a small hoiler at Hawick, on the banks of the Teviot, who had joined the Society of Friends with an eye, it was unkindly said, to improving his business. James, one of a large family, was born in 1805, and apprenticed to his father's business; but he, for some reason, did not follow it, but came to London and started as a hatter. Here he was not successful, and a similar experiment at Newcastle-on-Tyne was attended with the same results. Turning his attention to statistics, he published several pamphlets on currency and commerce, and, in 1843, started the *Economist*, which first procured him a seat for Westbury, and then office as Secretary to the Board of Control, and subsequently to the Treasury.

THE "DAILY TELEGRAPH."—The original title of this paper was the *Daily Telegraph* "and Courier," the latter words in small type, as "and Traveller," is still appended to the *Globe*. It came out as a four-page paper. At what period of its existence it was doubled I have no mem. The final "h" dropped out in printing the sixth or seventh number, and it appeared, for that day, as the *Daily Telegraph*. In its original hands it made but little headway.

THE "TIMES."—I find no authority appended to the following entry in my note-book of 1844, so it must be taken for what it is worth:—The property is divided into 24 shares, value £13,000 each, of which John Walter holds 16. Annual profit £45,000, of which Mr. Walter receives about £30,000. Captain Sterling, of Knightsbridge (an officer of the Peninsular war), writes "The Thunderer," for which he receives £1,500 a year. Richardson is the critic. Horace Twiss writes the leading summary of the Parliamentary proceedings. Daily circulation 22,000. Weekly expenses £2,355. The editor receives about 130 letters daily. This was 25 years ago, but I very much doubt the correctness of the figures.

THE "MORNING NEWS."—When the *Morning Chronicle* was on its last legs, it sent forth a puny shoot under the name of the *Morning News*. It was a penny paper, but far inferior to the other penny dailies, and it only ran a year or two.

JOSEPH HAYDON, the compiler of that useful book of reference, "The Dictionary of Dates," was the son of an Irish gentleman, his mother being sister to the Knight of Glynn. In 1828 he started

the *Dublin Evening Mail*, and in 1828 the *Patriot* and *Statesman*, both of the same city. He also for a time edited the *Limerick Times*, but, in 1839, he came to London, where he obtained an uncertain and irregular income by writing for the Press, till he got an appointment in the Record Department of the Admiralty. He died January 17, 1857, leaving a widow, two sons, and a daughter but poorly provided for; but to whom, on the recommendation of Lord Palmerston, her Majesty granted a pension of fifty pounds a-year.

GILBERT ABBOT A BECKETT for some time wrote many of the sparkling leaders of the *Times*, although he is better remembered as a *Punch* writer, and author of "The Comic History of England," and an upright police magistrate. He began his literary career as editor of *Figaro in London*, a penny humorous paper illustrated by Seymour, and died of typhus fever at Boulogne, at the early age of 40, on August 30th, 1857.

FRANCIS LUDLOW HOLT, Queen's Counsel, Vice-Chancellor of the County Palatine of Lancaster, and a Bencher of the Inner Temple, was for many years principal editor of *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, having married a niece of John Bell, the proprietor. He died at his residence, Earl's-terrace, Kensington, on the 29th of September, 1844.

THE NEWSPAPERS OF GERMANY.

As the Press in Germany now enjoys considerable freedom, and is capable and tolerably outspoken, the following account, as derived from continental writers, of the principal journals, the parties which they represent, and the views they take, may have some interest for our readers:—At Berlin the *Staats Anzeiger*, or *Moniteur Prussien*, is the official paper, and confines itself chiefly to the recording of decrees, judgments, &c. The *Nord-deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, or chief journal of the North of Germany, is regarded as the organ of Count Bismarck. The *Berliner Borsenblatt* is similar to our *Economist*, and represents money and trade. The *Kreuzzeitung*, or *Gazette de la Croix*, and *Zeidler's Correspondents* are the advocates of the feudal and clerical parties. The national Liberal section is represented by the *Reforme*, which is edited by M. Meyer (M. Bamberger, an opulent and talented Jew of Mayence, is understood to be one of the chief contributors), and the *National Zeitung*, proprietor, M. Michaelis. For the moderate democratic party the *Volks Zeitung*, M. Duncker; while the *Zukunft*, or *Avenir*, founded by M. Jacobi, and edited by M. Guido Weiss, represents the Radical or Republican Democrats. There are several others which may be said to represent the *bien pensants*, or peaceful Conservatives, as *Die Poste*, &c. In the large cities of Prussia there are journals, both daily and weekly, of considerable ability and influence. The *Gazette de Cologne* is a financial journal largely supported in Rhenish Prussia. Its policy, to quote M. La Rigaudière, is "to defend accomplished facts as all successful speculators ought to do." The *Rheinische Zeitung* is the organ of that party which advocates annexation and the rectification of frontiers. It is edited by Dr. H. Becker. The *Neue Königsberger Zeitung*, very ably conducted, has been a good deal at war with the authorities, and has suffered accordingly by numerous fines, confiscations, &c. At Gumbinnen and throughout Eastern Prussia the *Bürger* circulates widely. It is edited by M. Reitenbach-Plicken, and has distinguished itself by first bringing into notice the famishing state of the inhabitants in its locality. At Frankfurt the Democratic party is well represented by the *Frankfurter Zeitung* and the *Frankfurter Journal*. In Saxony, at Leipzig, is the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, a national and intensely Prussian newspaper. In Hamburg, the *Hamburger Nachrichten* advocates the national Liberal policy, and the *Weser Zeitung*, published at Brême, is accredited to M. Bismarck. In Bavaria the *Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung* is regarded as having the best diplomatic intelligence; the *Wochenausgabe* is a kind of accompaniment to it, and contains literary writing often of a most superior kind. At Munich, the *Süddeutsche Presse*, edited by M. J. Froebel, is supposed to be inspired by the Prince de Hohenlohe; the *Münchener Volksblatt* is an Ultramontane journal. At Carlsruhe, the *Badische Landes Zeitung* is anti-French and ultra-Prussian, and claims Alsace and Lorraine as rightful territory of the Fatherland. At Fribourg, the *Beobachter* (*L'Observateur*) is a clerical journal; and the *Oberrheinische Courier*, well edited by

Dr. V. Mayer, belongs to the school of moderate democracy. At Mannheim, the *Neue Badische Landes Zeitung* is ultra-Liberal, and has floated a good many canards in behalf of its party. At Stuttgart, the *Schwabische Merkur* represents the moderate Liberals and the *bourgeois*. The *Beobachter*, conducted by M. Charles Mayer, belongs to the Democratic party. Its articles are not without ability, and have certainly the merit of courage. The above are the principal newspapers at present published in Germany. They are equally smaller in size and much lower in price than English papers, and cheaper even than the French. This is easily accounted for; in the first place the stamp duty is very trifling, and in the second the postage for newspapers is exceptionally small and is in process of further reduction. It is regulated by the price of the journal, and was on the first of this year reduced by one half throughout Prussia.

THE SCOTCH PAPERS AND THE TELEGRAPHS.

JUST now, when the system of newspaper telegraphy is likely to undergo some important changes, the following remarks, which we find in a recent number of "Chambers' Journal," are worth quoting:—

"The most enterprising prints in the empire are those of Edinburgh and Glasgow. Three of the daily newspapers in the former city, and two in the latter have what are called 'special wires' for the transmission of important information from London. The compact entered into between the newspaper proprietors and the Telegraph Company gives to each newspaper the sole and exclusive control of one wire from seven in the evening till three o'clock the following morning. A sum amounting to close upon a thousand pounds per annum is charged for each separate wire, including the services of two clerks to work the instruments. This large outlay merely represents what is paid to the Telegraph Company, and is exclusive of the expenses of collecting the news, with which the corporation has nothing to do. As a rule, the wires commence work precisely at nine, and are generally kept going with alight intermissions, till three in the morning. If the wire be in good working order, and not affected by accident or the weather, between five and six columns of matter can be transmitted by each wire—no despicable feat, when it is remembered that every line of that large quantity of material has to be written out in manuscript for the use of the printers. But should the weather be stormy, and the electric current be affected, great difficulty is experienced in transmitting a single column. A practised newspaper reporter considers the writing out of four columns of a speech between seven o'clock at night and three o'clock in the morning as a good average achievement. The telegraph clerk has, however, a very material advantage over the reporter, and can write considerably more than that quantity within the same time. The clerk writes as it were from dictation. He has no trouble in condensing, improving, or altering the sentences of his speaker, and can consequently transcribe straight on without pause or loss of time. Two small bells are attached to the telegraph instrument, which speak as with brazen tongue to the practised ear of the clerk. All the words in the language can be swiftly and correctly represented by distinct intonations of the bells. Sound is the medium of conveyance by which the clerk reads the messages that are sent to him. He has merely to listen to the tune played upon the bells, and write down the words as if they were dictated by the human voice. To the uninitiated, the silvery tintinnabulation of the bells is a mere jumble of musical notes; but the disciplined clerk follows the sounds as unerringly as though they were spoken; and without lifting his eyes from the paper, writes by ear page after page of manuscript. Clerks who are expert at their profession can, by the aid of numerous contractions, write as fast as their collaborators at the other end can transmit; and if the wire is good, the longest speech that is ordinarily delivered in Parliament can be sent from London to the north."

THE staff of the *Wellington Journal* had their annual dinner at Wellington last month. The company, which included a few friends, numbered upwards of thirty. The chair was taken by the proprietor of the paper, Mr. Thomas Leake, and the vice by Mr. A. Sharman.

THE PRESS IN ITALY.

PERHAPS in no country of Europe have the numbers of newspapers increased of late as much as in Italy, and the contrast between the present liberty of the Press and its former gagged state is as great as black is from white. There are at present no less than 843 journals and periodicals issued from the Press, and though their circulation is not large, it is to be inferred that they pay their way or else they would be discontinued. This is an important fact, and shows that the ignorance of the great mass of the people is not so great as many suppose. By far the largest part of the papers are political, as might be expected, when a nation suddenly emerges from the most absolute state of thralldom to one of the greatest constitutional liberty, where every inhabitant more or less, takes an interest now in politics and sides with one party or another. The dearest journal is the *Correspondence Italienne*, written in French, which costs 60fr. per annum, and the next most expensive is the *Perseveranza di Milano*, which costs 48fr. The other papers are much cheaper.

After the political journals, the facetious and satirical element is most widely represented, scarcely any city or town of any importance but what can boast of its *Mefistofele*, *Satana*, *Forbice* (the scissors), *Don Marzio*, and others. Italy has also a well-conducted Review, in the style of the *Revue des deux Mondes* in its *Nuova Antologia di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti*, published monthly at Florence; and there are others of less note, such as the *Rivista Universale*, *Rivista Bolognese*, *Il nuovo-cimento*, *Il Buonarroti*, and *La Civiltà Cattolica*. The Florentine *Archivio Storico* continues to maintain its proud position at the head of the historical department, and the Milanese *Annalen der Mathematik*, edited by Brioschi, reckons among its contributors several of the most learned German mathematicians. There are numerous organs for agriculture and trade, and one specially devoted to silk. Then there is the "*Sport*," a word that cannot be translated into any other language, a journal of the Italian Alpine Club, and a paper relating exclusively to children's dresses, called *Toiletta dei Fanciulli*, and published at Milan. The few Jews residing in Italy support three newspapers, and the scarcely more numerous Protestants have also their organs. Four newspapers are published in the French language, and many in the various dialects of Italian, such as the Sicilian, the Neapolitan, and the Genoese. ROMEO.

THE PRESS IN SPAIN.

THERE are sixty political journals in Madrid, and their number is almost daily increasing. The *Correspondencia* alone prints 50,000 copies, of which barely 1,000 are sent out of Madrid. The *Imparcial* has made a formidable start after the September movement, and bids fair to come up to a level with the old popular favourite. Allowing only 1,000 for the average circulation of all their contemporaries, there is no exaggeration in saying that at least 150,000 printed sheets are daily sold and consumed in the Spanish capital. Supposing one-third of the papers leave Madrid, there remains 100,000 to be accounted for. The population of the city does not exceed 300,000, and Spanish statistics give us the proportion of 1 in 17 as that of the persons in the whole kingdom who can read. Admitting a somewhat higher degree of cultivation for the capital, and supposing that the illiterate are not more than 10 to 1, there are only 30,000 people—men, women, and children—able to read in Madrid, and each of these must have three-and-a-third newspapers as his own share of the food for the mind supplied by the daily metropolitan Press. The general price of a newspaper in Madrid can be reckoned at a little less than a halfpenny; but a month's subscription entitles a man to have his journal delivered at his door for tenpence a month. Owing to the tempting cheapness of the papers, it is just possible that they may be taken in by people who have other uses for papers besides reading them. So immoderate a supply of political information must needs imply a somewhat corresponding demand, and one cannot help inquiring how it is that the Madrid people require all this "stuff," and what good or harm the stuff can do them. The word "stuff" is applied in consideration of the quantity, not the quality, of the intellectual food the Madrid people are called upon to digest. If anything is wanted to give a Spanish journal sufficient attraction and

efficiency it is only the means, not the talent. Eloquent, prudent, amusing articles are to be read here and there; some of them reveal deep knowledge, others rare powers of sarcasm and invective on the part of their writers; but the faculties which would make one good journal are frittered away in half a score of petty farthing publications. The *Epoca*, although the most widely spread and justly appreciated abroad, is the least read or cared for at home. Public opinion in Madrid depends for its guidance on those farthing papers, which are generally designated as the "street Press;" and of these, again, those which make the greatest noise are often the most virulent, sometimes the most scurrilous and indecent. To do the lower classes of the Madrid people justice, it is not from them that patronage to this objectionable kind of publication mainly springs. With some opportune exertion on the part of the people's leaders, the disgusting exhibition of thoroughly immoral sheets, obscene prints, and infamous photographs by which Madrid is now disgraced, would not long withstand the better instincts of a population naturally sound at heart. The *beau idéal* of a political publication for the Madrilenos is evidently the *Correspondencia*, a journal which its contemporaries designate as a *Periodico Noticiero*, or, properly, a newspaper, because it professes to give only news. It is, as it professes, a "universal diary of news,"—universal, impartial, encyclopaedic—infatigable gossip-picker. Home and foreign intelligence, personal, political, commercial—all is given in a heap of confused paragraphs; the editor evidently throwing all items of information in a bag like the numbers of the lottery, drawing them up at hap-hazard, printing them down, *pêle-mêle*, higgledy-piggledy, and leaving it for the reader to pick up the plums as he best can out of the indigestible paste of the pudding which is served out smoking hot before him. The *Correspondencia* is published between nine and ten o'clock in the evening. It is an event—the wind-up event of the day—as inevitable as the rising of the sun in the morning. The town is just composing itself to its night's calmness; the latest shops are closed; the last carriages have been driven to the theatres; the crowds in the streets are thinning—when, punctual to a minute, the talismanic name of the great Budget of News is bawled about by a thousand stentorian throats. A new throb of life pervades every quarter, only subsiding by imperceptible degrees, and not dying away till two or three o'clock after midnight. They call it the "nightcap," because most people take it to bed with them. The paper is wretched, the ink abominable, the printing detestable; you cannot touch it without soiling your fingers. Such is a true and fair specimen of a Spanish newspaper.—*Times Correspondence*.

PRESS TRIALS AT BERLIN IN 1868.

ALTHOUGH the Seventh Chamber of the Criminal Court at Berlin, whose duties are chiefly confined to vindicating the majesty of the law, and punishing infractions of the ominous 101st and 102nd paragraphs of the penal code, had not so much on its hands in 1868 as in the preceding years, yet the number of Press offences brought before them for adjudication amounted to no less than thirty three, ten of which ended in acquittals, and the remaining twenty three in conviction and punishment, comprising altogether twenty one weeks of imprisonment and fines to the aggregate of 926 dols. These punishments are also considerably below the corresponding figures of the previous years. At the head of the list of journals prosecuted is the notorious *Staatsbürger Zeitung*, which had to appear before the court no less than nine times on different charges, and was acquitted three times, but convicted in six cases and punished with altogether thirteen weeks' imprisonment and fines to the amount of 135 dols., which had to be borne and paid by the editor Müller and the publisher conjointly. Two journals were prosecuted three times each—the *Volks Zeitung* and *Zukunft*, both of them advocating ultra-democratic principles. The former was convicted in all three cases, one of the editors (Herr Steinitz) being condemned to fines amounting to 49 dols.; Herr Grunert (another of the editors) to four dols., and Dr. Max Hirsch, as the writer of an invidious article condemning the Government for not taking more effective measures to alleviate the distress in the province of East Prussia last year, 30 dols.; the latter was more fortunate, escaping twice with an acquittal (once on the charge of holding up the Constitution of North Germany

to ridicule, and the second time for a leading article reflecting on the conduct of Government in sequestering the property of the ex-King of Hanover), and one conviction, for which the editor, Dr. Guido Weiss, was sent to prison for a fortnight. Three papers were indicted twice each—the *Kladderadatsch*, the *Berliner Reform*, and the *Gerichts Zeitung*, the last-named being acquitted in both cases (once on the charge of slandering and in the other of insulting Government officers by aspersing their conduct in the discharge of their official duties), whilst *Kladderadatsch* was both times convicted and condemned to fines of 102 dols. (the editor Dohm for inciting to take tickets in foreign (i.e. non-Prussian) lotteries, which is prohibited by Art. 37 of the Press law, with a fine of two dols. for each contravention, and the same editor to a fine of 100 dols., for calumniating the Count Zur Lippe, the Minister of Justice). In the two cases of the *Berliner Reform* (which is now enjoying the sleep of the righteous, having been discontinued in consequence of its suffering from acute atrophy), came off better, having been fined only 52 dols., viz.: the editor, Dr. Wiss, 30 dols. for a slander on Count Zur Lippe and the local Courts of Justice, the editor, Ihring, 10 dols., for holding up to ridicule the Peter's Pence and the Pope's Foreign Legion; and the publisher, Haberlandt, 12 dols. for infraction of Art. 35 of the Press law.

Eleven journals were prosecuted once each with various results: 1, the *Berliner Wespenn*, editor Julius Stettenheim, for turning into ridicule the police authorities; convicted and had to pay a fine of 15 dols.: 2, the *Volksfreund*, editor Parisius, for reprinting the report of a committee of the House of Representatives concerning the gendarme Kayser, sentenced to pay 10 dols.; 3, the *National Zeitung*, editor Dr. Zabel, for offending the President of the Government at Wiesbaden, acquitted; 4, the *Fremdenblatt*, on the charge of insulting a watchman, Herr Deutschmann, as the writer of the incriminating article, fined 10 dols., Dr. Walleman as accessory, acquitted, the editor Schenk fined five dols.; 5, the *Social Democrat*, editor Grüwell, for calumniating the President of the Police Court, convicted and sentenced to pay 20 dols. fine; 6, the *Berliner Börsen Zeitung*, editor Saling, convicted of inciting to take tickets in foreign lotteries, fined six dols.; and 7, the *Post*, editor Wild, for the same offence, 22 dols. These fines were incurred for publishing the advertisements of foreign lotteries to the detriment of the Prussian State Lottery, which means that Prussian subjects are permitted to gamble and ruin themselves as much as they like at home but not out of the King of Prussia's dominions. The remaining trials were instituted more for informality and irregularities; the theatrical journals thus 8, *Coulisse*, and 9, the *Operngucker* were charged with not having deposited the caution-money required by law, for which the editor Fränkel and publisher Perels of the *Coulisse* were fined 20 dols. each, and editor Bernhardt and publisher Korting of the *Operngucker* had to pay 29 dols. each. 10, Herr Steinitz, publisher of the *Steinitz Angersteinische Correspondenz*, was accused of defrauding the revenue, but the charge was not proven and he was acquitted. But Dr. Thiele, the publisher of 11, the *Zeitungsdeckel-Industrie-Anzeiger*, who was indicted on a similar charge, was not so fortunate, for he was found guilty and had to pay 420 dols. 18 groschens. We may here add that one Bennecke, formerly a pastry-cook and described as an "author," from his dabbling in literature, was condemned to six weeks' imprisonment for the incendiary contents of a pamphlet he published on the question of the rights of the working men; and finally, three numbers of the Vienna *Neue Freie Presse* were judged to contain criminal articles, and were ordered to be burned publicly. S.

THE PRIZES GIVEN BY THE FRENCH PRESS.

THE prizes given away by the proprietors of French journals to their annual subscribers are extremely droll, as the following brief outline will show:—

The proprietor of the *Figaro* last year gave his subscribers an entertainment, consisting of a ball and a supper, at one of the largest theatres in Paris.

The journal called *Paris* has offered this year to its subscribers a performance at the Italian Opera—four subscribers sending in their claims together, being entitled to occupy a box.

Le Gaulois tempts the public to subscribe by means of an album, containing original pieces for the piano, or voice and piano,

by Rossini, Auber, Schumann, Offenbach, Wagner, Gounod, Madame Patti, Arditi, Strauss, Strakosch, and some twenty or thirty other composers of various degrees of merit.

A subscriber to *Le National* enjoys the privilege of purchasing for five francs "a box in imitation-leather, with a gilt clasp," which is said to be well worth ten francs, and which we should think, regard being had to the marvellous nature of its contents, would be very cheap at that price. Inside the magic box are to be found:—

1. A hundred packets of soup-powder, from the house of Feyeux and Co., of twelve different kinds;
2. Twelve sonnets by Charles Monselet;
3. A guide to etiquette, by the Countess of Bassanville.

Here the useful and agreeable are really combined in an admirable manner. For five francs those fortunate persons who have duly qualified themselves by a twenty-franc annual subscription to the *National*, are provided with food for the body, food for the mind, and instruction (from a countess!) in the difficult art of behaving with propriety. The box itself, which the advertisement states may be used as a workbox, is probably put forth as a bait for the mothers of families; the soup-powders being intended to attract their gluttonous husbands; the sonnets, by Charles Monselet, to charm their sentimental daughters; the book of etiquette to teach manners to their unruly sons. Nothing could be more complete.

The only journal which can be accused of offering utterly objectionable presents is a child's paper, *L'Educateur des Enfants*, which proposes to give to each young subscriber an accordion, and directions for playing upon it. Children who are not allowed to have accordions can take a moderator lamp or a petroleum lamp instead; and each child is in any case entitled to ten books, such as "Gulliver's Travels," "Paul and Virginia," "Buffon's History of Animals," and other well-chosen works.

JOURNALS OF NOTE

VI.—THE "CHELMSFORD CHRONICLE."

THE *Chelmsford Chronicle*, or *Weekly Advertiser*, was commenced August 10th, 1764, as a royal folio sheet, at the price of twopence-halfpenny—stamp one penny—and printed by W. Strupar.

June 28th, 1765, printed by W. Strupar and L. Hassall.

January 1st, 1768, printed by J. Toft and B. Lobb, under whom the second title was altered to the "Universal Weekly Advertiser." This seems continued till March 15th, 1771. A new series was commenced April 5th, in the same year, beginning as "No. 1," printed by W. Clacher, and sold by C. Frost, the second title being now the "Essex Gazette." On May 24th, 1771, the second title was dropped, and has never been resumed. In January, 1777, Mr. S. Gray was admitted a partner (Mr. C. Frost having been admitted May 31st, 1771), and the price is marked at threepence. On April 8th, 1785, the firm was changed to W. Clacher, G. Gray, and Co.; and on August 7th, 1780, the price is marked threepence-halfpenny—stamp three-halfpence. On March 30th, 1792, the paper was enlarged to five columns to the page, instead of four, and the price raised to fourpence. On April 22nd, 1794, the partners were W. Clacher, William Meggy, and Thomas Chalk. On May 29th, 1799, Mr. Clacher seceded from the firm, and the paper became the sole property of Messrs. Meggy and Chalk, in whose families it has ever since remained. It will be seen that the early part of its career was full of changes, but it has since pursued a very even tenor and seen no alterations. In 1813 the proprietors purchased the *Essex Herald*, a paper established at Chelmsford in 1803, by Richard Creak Stanes, and the two have run as sister papers ever since—the *Chelmsford Chronicle* appearing on Fridays, and the *Essex Herald* (since 1826, previously to which it was a Thursday paper), on Tuesdays. In 1823, William Jerdan, of *Literary Gazette* fame, was a contributor of essays to this journal. The *NEWSPAPER PRESS* of February, 1867, announced the death of Mr. George Meggy, who had been one of the proprietors of these papers for nearly forty years, having succeeded his father, Mr. William Meggy, who died in September, 1832. EAST-ANGLIA.

THE EARLY DAYS OF THE MANCHESTER PRESS.

In 1752 Joseph Harrop started the *Manchester Mercury*, with the following preliminary notice:

"To THE PUBLIC.—Having been greatly encouraged to publish a weekly newspaper, I lately advertised that I intended speedily to proceed upon that design; and having now procured a new set of types to print with, I have here begun to execute it. I shall take care to answer the proposals in any advertisements by the contents of my paper, and a favourable reception will, I hope, enable me to do it with success. Though in a time of general peace, a great dearth of foreign advices may be urged as a discouragement to my undertaking at this juncture, yet the friendly excitement that I have had, and the honest desire of employment in my proper calling in the place of my nativity, are motives excuseable at least for attempting in a private station to bespeak the encouragement of the public, to whom I propose to give all the satisfaction that I can, and no just cause of offence whatsoever. Such of my countrymen and others who intend me the favour of their subscriptions shall have the paper delivered at their houses with all due care and expedition by their obliged, humble servant, JOSEPH HARROP."

In 1812 Mark Wardle started the *Manchester Observer*, which afterwards fell into the hands of James Wroe who formerly sold old iron and second-hand books on a stall in Port-street; but a fine and imprisonment for libel brought him to grief.

In 1814, aged 61, died William Cowdroy, proprietor and editor of the *Manchester Gazette*, who was also a poet, a wit, and most genial companion.

In 1825 Thomas Sowler started the *Manchester Courier*, with Alaric Watts for his editor. CAPTAIN CUTLER.

SENSATIONAL JOURNALISM.

(From the *Round Table*.)

It really seems to us as if it were time for respectable journalists to take some steps to vindicate the honour and position of their calling. The theory of "sensations"—that is to say, the theory of success at any price—has been pushed to a point that threatens to bring the Press into universal contempt. To judge from current appearances, some proprietors are of opinion that a certain coarse fibre, with a capacity for unlimited rough work, joined to an equally unlimited capacity for hard lying, is all that is needful to make an accomplished journalist. Now, setting its moral aspects aside, we do not believe that, even in the commercial sense, in the long run this sort of thing will pay. The community contains bad elements, but it is not yet bad enough for that. Something like the appearance of a sense of honour, even if it be only of the sort that constitutes the homage vice pays to virtue, a bare semblance of manly and chivalrous feeling, ought surely still to be remunerative, even if the genuine articles are hard to find, or, in this wicked city, harder still when found to keep.

THE OLD NEWS PAMPHLETEER OF NEW YORK.

(From the *New York Clipper*.)

To Hugh Gaines, a printer, holding forth at the Bible and the Crown, colonial New York was indebted for a journal which bore some resemblance to a news-sheet. During the political excitement preceding the revolution this paper contained essays and editorials of a marked ability, which gave rise to a host of pamphlets written by men of note. The trade of pamphleteer was then both ancient and honourable, as from that fountain comes the stream of journalism which has swallowed up every other channel for expression of opinion. But Gaines had espoused the cause of royalty, and notwithstanding the fact of his throwing away his Crown and holding fast to the Bible, his newspaper could never regain its forfeited popularity. In opposition to him some enterprising patriot started a rival journal, or rather gazette, for the word journal can only be legitimately applied to a daily newspaper, and from that time forth flourished that reign of vituperation so common to those engaged in political warfare, which has only died out within a few years back.

THE POWER OF THE PRESS.

(From the *Queen's Messenger*.)

A FREE Press is a censorial power lodged in the hands of the people. It gives them the right to express their disapprobation of public evils. It is a beneficent power, which begins where other checks fail. It touches matter out of the reach of the law; it indicates, it does not punish. It is the mildest yet the most effectual restraint that could be devised for authority. In all liberty there is indeed some danger; but so there is in all power. The question is, in which there is the most danger—in power limited by this check, or in power without this check to limit it. When complaints are freely heard and deeply considered, when evils are speedily reformed, then only is the utmost bound of civil liberty attained which wise men in our age and country are entitled to expect.

Public and free deliberations respecting the laws, measures, and conduct of official persons are sure to operate in favour of the Government. If their position is not utterly untenable, it enables them to refute objections and to confound false reports. Government has always far greater means of employing the Press than are possessed by their adversaries. Hurtful and wide-spread prejudices publicly combated soon begin to have less dominion. The multitude are secured from the tricks of demagogues and the cheats of impostors. In countries where unfettered discussion is fairly permitted the people are every day more easily managed by honesty and good sense. A habit of reasoning penetrates all classes of society, and it loses that morbid sensibility which among nations without liberty or knowledge renders them the sport of every alarm and of every suspicion, at once timid and arrogant, equally despicable in their transports and their subjection.

Even in circumstances where discontents are greatest, the signs of uneasiness are not the signs of revolt. The nation relies on those trusty friends whose public character ample knowledge has taught them to respect; and legal opposition being permitted to every measure prevents even the idea of illegal resistance, till courageous endurance becomes one of the most prominent virtues of a free state. The main difference between a despotic and an undespotic Government is that in the latter some faculty of effectual resistance is purposely left to the people. It was the right of remonstrance which so long preserved the liberties of Geneva, and it has done more than everything else put together to maintain our own.

The Press is infinitely more servicable than injurious to the reputations of public men. It is their security against malignant representations and calumnies. It is not possible where it is free to attribute to them false discourses, nor to hide the good they have done, nor to give their conduct an unfair colouring. The liberty of the Press is also the surest guard of a private good name. Where there exists no safe means of communicating with the public, everyone is exposed to the shafts of malignity and envy. The official loses his popularity, the merchant his credit, the humble man his character, without so much as knowing who are his enemies, which way they carry on their attacks, or the nature of their accusations. But where there exists a free Press, an innocent man may immediately bring the matter into open day. All differences of rank, fortune, and society are equalised. He may crush his adversaries at once by a demand to lay before the public the grounds of their imputations; and falsehood only raises the fame of those it has attacked. Cheering as the liberty of the Press is to good men, they who suppose that it is no restraint on bad ones, and no impediment to bad measures, know nothing of the case. Ministers and magistrates have, in reality, little punishment to fear and few difficulties to contend with beyond public censure, the spirit of inquiry it excites among the people, and the knowledge that wherever there is an abuse there will be a clamour.

THE *Daily News* has set an example for the London dailies to follow in giving displayed advertisements in a large shape. It has recently let its back pages for £50 a time. A new feature has also lately been introduced into the *Times*, viz., a Summary of Contents, in double-column, placed preceding the leading articles. —*Stationer*.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, February 25.

With the opening of the new session of the Legislative Assembly an important and valuable concession has been made by the Government to the Press of this city in the shape of permission to attend the sittings and listen the debates, though it would have come with more grace had it been a spontaneous and voluntary act of ministers, and not the result of a gentle pressure on the part of public opinion. At a meeting of the editors and reporters of the political journals, held at the end of last month, at the offices of the *Opinion Nationale*, the daily papers were all represented, except the official journal and the two ultramontane organs, the *Gazette de France* and the *Univers*, as well as the *Presse libre*. The Government having granted the journalists the use of a special "tribune"—it is the Box No. 14, containing twenty-six seats—the object of the meeting was to organise themselves as a now, though tardily, recognised body, and to draw up a code of regulations for their own guidance. They also elected a chairman to represent them with the President of the Legislative Assembly. As the new journalists' gallery is but of limited dimensions, it has been decided that there is no room in it for the representatives of the provincial and foreign Press, who are thus excluded from the right of entrance, which is reserved exclusively for the Paris daily papers. These privileged gentlemen have resolved themselves into a club, and, on the proposal of M. de Girardin, who is of course one of the leading directors of the Association, it is arranged they are all to dine together at the Grand Hotel on the first Monday of every month. It is expected that these convivial meetings will at first be well attended and amusing enough, but that it will not last long, and as soon as the novelty of the thing has worn off, the present unanimity and collegiality will give place to petty bickerings, jealousy, and dissensions.

Great expectations were raised by the announcement of an "interpellation" in the Senate by M. de Maupas, on the subject of the Press in France, though many people doubted whether it would come off at all, as it had to pass the preliminary ordeal of two committees, who, however, were indulgent, and offered no difficulties, and the day fixed for the debate was the 5th inst. But it led to nothing, may be considered a failure, and caused much disappointment. With a great flourish of trumpets and exertion of lungs the hon. senator made a speech of more than an hour, making use of meaningless platitudes that always sound well, and for which the French language is so admirably adapted, but at the end of which it is difficult, if not impossible, to understand the gist of his remarks, and even doubtful if he knows it himself. At all events, the debate took a very different turn from what was expected. He frankly admitted the inexpediency of repealing the new Press law, though he considered its enactments more severe than was absolutely needful, and was of opinion that it could not fail to be prejudicial to the Government. Press prosecutions only served to give notoriety to obscure journals and obscure writers. The great object sought to be obtained was to prevent the attacks now made by the Press, and which of necessity called for the interference of the Tribunals, but this could only be effected by a change of system on the part of the Government. What he asked for was to place the law in harmony with the Constitution, thus making ministers able to shield the Emperor, and direct towards themselves the shafts of the Press. He considered the removal of M. Pinard from office a step in the right direction, and wanted to see a responsible ministry with a will of its own and a defined course of policy.

Count de Sartiges—a newly-appointed Senator, but an old diplomatist—his last appointment being that of ambassador at Rome—in a maiden speech said that his experience of the Press in other countries taught him that journalists were not necessarily subversive of order, or revolutionary in principle. An honest Press was one of the great bulwarks of society, and enjoyed great influence in controlling and keeping down bad passions. Newspapers did not make public opinion, but simply followed it as its exponents, and he should not be afraid to see the same liberty of the Press in France as was to be found in England, the United States, Italy, Belgium, and Holland.

M. de Saint-Arnaud defended the present state of things in France, and praised the conduct of the Judges in doing their duty, and convicting and punishing the journals brought before them. M. Rouher seemed to look at the motion of M. de Maupas as a personal attack on himself, was highly indignant, and in reply made some bitter remarks. But he admitted that a certain degree of solidarity existed among the Ministers of the Cabinet, and that none of them would be found willing to support a policy they did not conscientiously approve. The discussion was brought to a close without a division, M. de Maupas declaring he felt satisfied with the impression he had made, and had no doubt it would be well received out of doors.

As usual, there are again plenty more Press prosecutions to record. Under the significant heading of "Continuation of the Martyrdom of the Press," the *Siècle* publishes the text of the sentence passed by the Court of Correctional Police at Lyons on the *Discussion* of that city. The editor, the manager, and the printer, demanded a postponement of the trial, in order to prepare their defence, but as this boon was refused, they declined to appear, and judgment went by default. M. Paul Desmarests, the author of the incriminating article, is condemned to three months' imprisonment, and a fine of 2,000f.; M. Richon, the *gérant*, and M. Regard, the printer, have each to pay a fine of 500f. The *Gaulois* of that city, has also been convicted of an infringement of the law in publishing matters connected with private life by virtue of the famous clause inserted on the amendment of M. Guillaumet concerning *la vie privée*, and fined 50f. Singularly enough the cause of complaint was the recording of a generous action of the prosecutor, who is a comedian of the Variétés Theatre, and who had an opportunity of defending a respectable married woman from being grossly insulted by a disreputable character, in consequence of which his colleagues gave him the nickname of *Le Terreneuve des Bourgeois*. This he resented by a prosecution, and as no allowance was made for the extenuating circumstances, the defendant was convicted with costs.

New journals spring up here like mushrooms, and many of them disappear almost as speedily. One called *Le Peuple* made its *début* on the 1st instant, and was followed a day or two after by *Le Parlement*. The former is sold for one sou, and the larger journals that charge three sous state that money must be lost, and prophecy its stoppage very soon. The editor is M. Clement Duvernois. A new Government organ called *La Reforme* is mentioned as likely to appear on the 1st of March. The *Epoque* has been discontinued as a daily paper, and its goodwill and subscribers are transferred to *Le Peuple*, whilst the *Epoque* itself is carried on as a weekly. Competition in newspapers, as in everything else, appears to be favourable for the Press here; thus the *National*, when it first appeared on the 17th of January, struck off a modest 10,000 copies, has now a circulation of more than 50,000, and *Le Petit Journal*, which it was specially intended to compete with, had at the above date an edition of 238,350 copies, which are now increased to 292,900. The *Gaulois* is prohibited from being sold in the streets by itinerant hawkers, in consequence of a satirical article of M. Avout, containing an ideal conversation between the Emperor Charlemagne and the Imperial Prince, in which the former severely comments on the rambling and planless education the young Prince is receiving, which will not fit him for any career—not even that of an Emperor.

The well-known writer, Robert Mitchell, who by the influence of the Minister Rouher was lately removed from the editorial staff of the *Constitutionnel*, is now restored to favour, and has become second editor of the *Patrie*, also a semi-official, or as they call it here, "inspired" organ.

Hitherto the papers in the German language published in Alsatia, and other Teutonic provinces of France, have been much neglected, there being only two, one of which was the *Volksfreund*, a weekly non-political journal written in the low jargon of the peasants, and published at Strasbourg, and edited by the Rev. Pastor Gerber, at Hagenau. It circulates about 10,000 copies among the Germans in Paris and Lyons, as well as in Alsatia and Lorraine. The other is called the *Zaberger Wochenblatt*, and is the organ of the Under Prefect of that circle. Two new journals have, however, just been launched—the *Elässische Volksbote*, published at Bixheim by Sutter, and the *Elässische Volksblätter*, published at Mühlhausen by the proprietor of the *Industriel*.

Both are political, and the former defends the Catholic interests, whilst the latter represents the Liberal or Protestant party. Apropos of the necessity of copying the debates of Parliament from the text of the official journal, which all newspapers in France are obliged to do under heavy penalties—which, by the way, renders the above-mentioned concession of a reporters' gallery little better than a farce—a provincial journal proposes very reasonably that an official summary should be made, and sent to the provincial papers, which would be a great convenience, as they are now not allowed to make any curtailments, and must either publish the whole, which takes up too much space for their limited columns, or leave out the Parliamentary intelligence altogether.

The Pope has issued a Breve to the clerical organs, the *Union* and the *Monde*, praising them for their exertions in the good cause, and enjoining them to continue zealous in the same.

As an inducement to subscribe to the *Gironde*, a liberal paper published at Bordeaux, the proprietor offers subscribers for a year the right to purchase for 60*l.* a terrestrial globe of five feet in circumference, the selling price of which to non-subscribers is 100*l.*

In recognition of the eminent services rendered by M. Esandier and M. Cohen, two of the editors of *La France*, the ex-king of Hanover has conferred on those gentlemen the decoration of Knights of the Guelphic Order.

On the invitation of M. de Girardin the editors of the principal political journals of this city were asked to meet one day last week at the offices of *La Presse* to concert measures for their joint conduct and mutual support in their attacks on Count Bismarck and his Prussian policy; but it ended in a complete *fiasco*, as the meeting was only attended by three gentlemen of the Press, who were of course unable to do anything or attempt to dictate any course to be pursued by their colleagues.

AVANT-COURIER.

M. Francisque Sarcey's late "conference" on "journalism," a subject with which he, if any one, ought to be well acquainted, attracted a very large audience. Speaking of journalism as a profession, M. Sarcey said that to be a journalist in the present day a man should possess much information, good health, some independent fortune, and enough courage not to mind feeling "déclassé" in contemporary society; and he thought it a good thing for a journalist that journalism should not be his sole profession.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, Feb. 25.

It is satisfactory to be able to state that the question of a revision of the Press law by the Prussian Parliament is by no means shelved for the present session, as I was led to infer from the preliminary debate in committee, and stated my fears in my last letter, but that, on the contrary, there is now every reason to hope it will be finally settled in a liberal spirit before the approaching adjournment. Last week the XII. Committee of the House of Representatives, specially charged with the duty of examining into and reporting on the petition of Messrs. Duncker, Ebert, and others for the repeal of all measures tending to limit the freedom of the Press, had another meeting, which was attended by the Privy Councillors, Count Eulenburg and Von Schelling, as official representatives of the Crown. Paragraph 1 abolishes the necessity of obtaining a licence for the trade of printer and publisher. The referee declared himself in favour of making no alteration at present, as it was known that in the next session of the Federal Parliament a bill would be brought in legislating on the subject for the whole of the North German Confederation. He was supported by Count Eulenburg. This was objected to by the mover and other members of the committee, who pointed out that the mere trade point of view did not come up by many degrees to the real importance of the question, which involved the liberty of thought, and the loyal Prussians had ever enjoyed a traditional claim to be delivered from such bondage. At the same time they took occasion to observe that the granting a concession was illusory, and afforded no guarantee or security against abuses, as in no case was it the editor who was licensed, and yet he was the leading and directing spirit of a newspaper, and editors were not deserving of being treated with want of confidence any more than the Press. The paragraph was then passed by 6 votes to 5. The second paragraph rescinds the necessity

of sending to the authorities *Pflicht-Exemplare*, or official copies of newspapers previous to their public sale or distribution. Herr Duncker—himself largely connected with the Press—described the inconveniences arising from this restriction, and asked in what other trade was a similar requirement made, and whether, for instance, retailers of milk were bound to present samples to the police for examination before they sold their produce. The referee expressed himself strongly in favour of retaining the present custom, which existed in almost all European States; even in England it was required to deposit copies at the Stamp Office. Count Eulenburg was totally opposed to the proposed paragraph, maintaining the absolute necessity of the Government being fully acquainted with the contents of everything proceeding from the Press. But notwithstanding this energetic protest of the Count, who is also Minister of the Interior, and the affairs of the Press consequently fall within his department, the paragraph was passed by 6 votes to 5. With reference to section 3, abolishing the necessity for depositing caution money, it was demonstrated that it was no safeguard for good conduct, as journals of the most destructive and revolutionary tendency found no difficulty in complying with this requirement. The referee, or reporter, said he also was of opinion that caution money did no good, as experience showed that it was seldom or never needful to secure the payment of fines out of such deposits. Count Eulenburg had no objection to a motion for taking the question of caution money into consideration, but he could not agree to the paragraph as at present worded, notwithstanding which it was unanimously passed. When section 4, prohibiting the seizure of printed matter, came on for discussion, a conservative member gave it as his opinion that it was just the legislation now in force that limited the right of seizure to very few exceptional cases, and these were provided for by the General Penal Code. To this it was replied that what was required was to liberate the Press from just such exceptional measures. The Royal Commissioner said that if the Government were deprived of the right of preliminary seizure it was an illusion to suppose they could counteract or control the transgressions of the Press. The referee was of opinion that if this paragraph passed the Press would be in a much worse condition than before. The fifth paragraph provides for the abolition of all measures opposed to the enactments of the bill. To this a motion was made to repeal the 54th clause of the present Press law concerning the withdrawal of concessions, but it was shown to be a logical sequence that if no concessions were required the question of the right of revoking them was totally superfluous, and the motion was negatived. On the part of the mover and seconder of the bill, the Press law of December 30, 1868, of the Duchy of Saxe-Altenburg was produced to show that like those of Saxe-Weimar, Meiningen, and Coburg, all restrictions of the Press were repealed, and it was added that the measure of freedom accorded in those small States was not greater than ought to be enjoyed by Prussians; but in reply to this it was urged that a great Power like Prussia required to take greater measures of precaution than was needed in those small duchies. Finally, the whole bill was passed in its entirety, and Herr Proscher was deputed to bring up the report of the committee, and give verbal explanations to the House of Representatives when it came on for general debate.

The editorship of the political part of the *Flensburg Nord-deutsche Zeitung*, which for the last two years has been conducted by Herr Theodor Fisher, Dr. Phil., though nominally by Th. Herzbruch, its publisher, has now been transferred to Dr. Wilhelm Jensen, a native of Kiel, favourably known to the German public as a writer of fiction, and hitherto employed at Stuttgart as editor of the *Schwäbischer Merkur*. By this change no alteration is made in the political tendency of the paper.

The editorship of the *Allgemeine Musikalische Zeitung* has been transferred to Herr Friedrich Chrysander, of Bergedorf, near Hamburg.

The Criminal Court at Frankfort has pronounced judgment on the editor of the *Frankfurter Journal*, convicted of a libel on Baron von Seebach, the Saxon ambassador at Paris. He is condemned to pay a fine of 100 dollars, or suffer an imprisonment of twenty days.

In the Press prosecution of J. Hollander, as publisher, and Zerbst, as editor of the *Industrieller Humorist* of this city, for a

libel on Dr. J. Nathan, the Inferior Court has found the defendants guilty; the sentence being for Hollander four weeks' imprisonment, and for Zerbst a fine of 150 marks to be paid within fourteen days, and both being jointly answerable for costs; in addition to which, the copies seized by the police are ordered to be destroyed, and the sentence published at full length in the next issue, on pain of ten dollars' fine.

The Berlin club of journalists, called the *Berliner Presse*, have sent off an address drawn up by the well-known novelist, Berthold Auerbach, to be presented to the new President of the United States immediately after his instalment, requesting him to take measures for the protection of literary property in America. The other literary associations in Europe are invited to take similar steps.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, February 22.

Among the Parliamentary debates of this month there were two of special interest as having reference to the affairs of the Press. One of them was brought forward in the First Chamber on the 7th inst., when Herr Hallenborg made a motion in favour of an alteration of the present Press law, which gave rise to an animated discussion. Whilst all the speakers declared themselves ready to support the principle of the proposed alteration, Count Henning Hamilton, von Geijer, Arrhenius, and other members, objected to various points of detail, especially with reference to the composition of the jury, which they maintained ought to consist of more than twenty-four persons, and not be wholly renewed every year, but only a third or a half of them be replaced annually. Great stress was laid on the abolition of the so-called responsibility system, which was found to be injurious to the interests of the larger political journals. M. Hallenborg, in support of his motion, declared that he was far from wishing to see any restrictions imposed on the liberty of the Press, and was only endeavouring to make the letter of the law so plain that it would become impossible to evade or circumvent it. But he confessed it was partly his object to put a little pressure on the committee for the constitution, in order to oblige them to take action and make some desirable proposals on the subject. Baron de Geer, the Minister of Justice, took part in the debate, stating his approval of the motion, and hoping that the committee would take the subject into their serious consideration, so as to be prepared to make some acceptable proposal. He was of opinion that it would be extremely difficult to make not only the editor of a political newspaper, but also the publisher and the printer, responsible for the contents; and therefore it behoved them to be careful in wording the law so that the innocent may not have to suffer for or with the guilty. It was finally agreed that the whole of the Press law should undergo a searching revision in the present session.

A few days later, Herr Hedlund, editor of the *Handels och Sjöfarts-Tidning*, of Gothenburg, and Member of the Second Chamber, brought in a bill for a new Press law. The object of the bill is to provide the most perfect liberty of the Press without any measures of hindrance or control, including, of course, the abolition of the necessity of obtaining a Government concession for the publication of any newspaper or periodical, whether political or otherwise; but on the other hand, the editor shall be bound to print his name as responsible for the contents of each impression. It further abolishes sundry inconvenient and antiquated enactments of the Press law hitherto in force, as no longer suited to the age we live in, such as blasphemy, the denial of the purity of the Evangelical-Lutheran creed, and other subjects relating to religion; it also enables an editor to evade the responsibility of an article by retracting it if incorrect; it provides a scale of pecuniary fines on a much milder footing than at present in operation; and finally, all offences of the Press are to be tried by juries composed in the same way as the electors of members for the Second Chamber of Parliament are chosen in every town of the kingdom.

BAVARIA.

The *Hochdeutscher Postkurier*, whose birth on New Year's Day was chronicled with a great flourish of trumpets by the German Press, has closed its short-lived career after a run of twenty-eight days, the alleged ground being want of public support in the face of great expenses.

Professor E. G. Kaiser, of the University of Munich, has resigned the editorship of the *Kunst und Gewerbe Blatt*, of the Polytechnic Association of the kingdom of Bavaria, after thirty-five years' service in that capacity. In taking farewell of his readers, he states that his motive for resigning was to husband the energies of his declining years for the legitimate duties of his calling as public instructor.

WURTEMBERG.

Herr Karl Mayer, editor of the *Deobachter*, has been tried before the Criminal Court at Esslingen, on the prosecution of the Prussian Government, for traducing Count Bismarck in a series of articles on the political conduct of Prussia. The prosecutor demanded a punishment of three months' imprisonment and a fine of 100fl. The facts of the case being duly proved, the editor was convicted of the offence and sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment, 100fl. fine, payment of costs, and the publication of the sentence.

The *Democratische Correspondenz* has ceased appearing, the reason assigned being the publication of severe remarks on the sequestration of the private property belonging to the Elector of Hesse.

Among the new periodicals brought out since the beginning of the year are the following: *Der Welthandel*, an illustrated monthly for trade and industry, published by Julius Maier; and the *Allgemeine Familien Zeitung*, an illustrated weekly that promises to become a dangerous rival to *Ueber Land und Meer*.

BADEN.

Some alterations have been made in the official Press at Carlsruhe, the *Central Verordnungsblatt* and the *Anzeigblatt* being both discontinued and replaced by two new journals, entitled respectively the *Staats-Anzeiger* and the *Gesetzes und Verordnungsblatt*.

BELGIUM.

Victor Hugo's new journal, *Le Rappel*, is to appear at Brussels on the 1st of March. It is to be conducted in a light, attractive style, with a dash of satire running through the whole, and will be a sort of medium between the *Paris Charivari* and the *Figaro*. Henri de Rochefort is one of the contributors, and the theatrical critiques will be from the pen of M. Bacquerie.

RUSSIA.

The affair of the radical journal, *Moskwa*, which, after several warnings, has been suspended for six months for the second time, has been brought before the Senate for definitive settlement. It has been referred to a committee of that body, who have already reported on it, but as the members of the committee were not unanimous in their opinion, the whole question will be shortly entered into and fully discussed by the Plenum of the Senate.

SWITZERLAND.

La Lanterne Suisse is the name of a new periodical in imitation of Rochefort's *Lanterne*; it professes to belong to no party, but promises to expose all social and Government abuses.

SPAIN.

The Government is obliged to adopt very severe measures to keep the Press in due check and prevent excesses by punishments. The editor of the republican organ, *Ygualdad*, has been arrested and imprisoned for want of respect towards the authorities, and the publisher of the ultramontane journal, *El Pensamiento Espanol*, has been committed for the same offence.

Senor de Roncas, formerly editor of the *Novedades*, has been appointed Spanish Ambassador at the Court of Berlin.

The *Estandarte*, also an "Isabellian" organ, has ceased to exist; and the new rabid Church paper, *Iglesia*, expired with its third number.

ISLE OF REUNION.

The official report on the late massacres signalises amongst the causes of the events that took place the excesses of the local Press, and notably those of the *Journal de Commerce* and *La Malle*, extreme organs of opinions ultra-Radical and religious;

and also those of a clandestine print entitled *Le Cri d'Alarme*. The language, undoubtedly violent, has in no case been directed against the Government of the mother country, but only against the *Senatus-Consulta* of 1854 and 1866. The animosity of these writings became greater after the arrival of a certain M. Buet as chief editor of the *Malle*, a man who was soon after accused of an attempt on the chastity of a young Creole; and on the 29th of November 250 young men collected under his windows with shouts of "*A bas Buet!*"

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18th.

On the 19th of last month Mr. Richmond brought a bill before the New York Assembly, which, if carried, might, to some measure, check the audacious statements put forth by some newspaper proprietors as to the circulation of their journals. The bill, which is said to have been suggested by Mr. Horace Greeley, would require every newspaper or other periodical which admits advertisements into its columns, to print in some conspicuous position of each number a true statement of the number of copies circulated of its previous issue. But I do not see what guarantee advertisers would have that these figures were correct.

A great clatter of self-laudation, crimination, and recrimination, in reference to their respective independence has been going on between *Harper's Weekly*, the *Evening Post*, the *Tribune*, and the *World*, which has, as might have been expected, led to not a few personalities, charges of venality, &c., &c., the sure result of such unseemly controversies.

On the 8th ult. a conference of editors was held at Bellefonte to promote an union and interchange of sentiments among the conductors of newspapers in Pennsylvania. On motion of Mr. P. Gray Meek, of the Bellefonte *Watchman*, Mr. H. G. Smith, of the Lancaster *Intelligencer*, was called to the chair, and Messrs. Comman, of the Hunterdon *Monitor*, and Evans, of the West Chester *Village Record*, were appointed secretaries. Mr. Thaddeus P. Stephens, of the Bellefonte *National*, was selected as corresponding secretary, and directed to issue a circular to the State, inviting them to meet at Harrisburg for the purpose of urging upon the Legislature the necessity and propriety of providing for the publication of the general laws of the State in one or more newspapers in each country.

Mr. Smith delivered a brief address, in which he referred to the necessity for combination among editors, especially those of the country Press, whom he designated as the "harvesters of the sentiments of the people."

The feasibility of adopting a uniform scale of charges for advertisements in different districts of the State was partially discussed, and the matter then postponed until the next meeting, when a full attendance is expected.

Independently of the commercial interests likely to be forwarded by these meetings, it is, perhaps, not unreasonable to indulge a hope that the personalities and invectives which too often disfigure our public prints might be softened down if the writers were occasionally brought into friendly intercourse.

The thirteenth annual meeting of the Editorial Association of New Jersey assembled at the American Hotel, Trenton, on January 14. In the absence of the president, Colonel Applegate, of the *Monmouth Inquirer*, was elected president *pro tem*.

Judge Naar spoke of the abuse of the free-ticket system of the editorial excursions, and hoped some regulation would be adopted excluding those who are in the habit of ringing in. He made a motion that the secretary be instructed to hereafter send two tickets to every paying member, and fifty complimentary to be placed in the hands of the executive committee for distribution. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Vanderhoven and Judge Naar called the attention of the Association to the abuse of the law directing the laws enacted by the Legislature to be published in every paper in the State. Insignificant papers, with inconsiderable circulation, start up and secure this printing, and are enabled to drag out a puny existence to the detriment of the craft.

Major Pangborn offered a resolution, advocating an amendment to the law, restricting the publication of the laws to all papers with a *bond fide* average circulation of at least four hundred copies,

and that the executive committee be instructed to urge this matter upon the present Legislature. The resolution was adopted.

NEW PAPERS.—*Weekly Patriot*, Philadelphia, Pa., literary, M. K. Price, publisher; *New World*, New York (weekly), literary and romance, Frank Leslie, publisher; *Chronicle and Advertiser*, Manayunk, Philadelphia (weekly), James Milligan, editor and proprietor.

SUSPENSIONS.—*Evening Dispatch*, San Francisco, Cal.; *Rural West*, Quincy, Ill., now issued as the weekly of the Quincy *Evening Journal*; *National Republican*, Augusta, Ga., succeeded by the *Daily Press*.

The following interesting statement appears in the *Proof Sheet*. It is a very difficult matter to get at the *precise* number of journals published throughout our wide territory, but the text at foot may be taken as approximately near the mark:—

States and Territories.	Daily.	Weekly.	Mnthly.	TOTAL.
Alabama	12	75	..	87
Arkansas	8	45	..	48
California	27	162	6	195
Connecticut	17	53	4	74
Delaware	1	13	..	14
District of Columbia	8	11	1	20
Florida	..	23	..	23
Georgia	13	77	6	96
Illinois	26	878	11	415
Indiana	22	234	18	269
Iowa	18	204	6	228
Kansas	10	55	2	67
Kentucky	5	74	..	79
Louisiana	10	80	4	94
Maine	6	59	4	69
Maryland	6	93	4	103
Massachusetts	19	162	88	219
Michigan	13	152	6	170
Minnesota	7	76	..	83
Missouri	20	211	9	240
Mississippi	7	68	1	76
North Carolina	12	48	5	65
Nebraska	1	24	..	25
New Hampshire	7	39	6	52
Nevada	4	12	..	16
New Jersey	21	96	3	110
New York	77	535	63	675
Ohio	33	320	24	377
Oregon	7	26	..	33
Pennsylvania	49	406	40	495
Rhode Island	5	17	..	22
South Carolina	4	62	1	67
Tennessee	14	75	3	92
Texas	10	102	2	114
Vermont	6	44	4	54
Virginia	14	79	7	100
West Virginia	4	46	1	51
Wisconsin	14	146	2	162
Arizona	..	2	..	2
Colorado	9	13	1	23
Dacotah	..	2	..	2
Idaho	..	7	..	7
Montana	1	8	..	9
New Mexico	..	5	..	5
Utah	1	2	..	3
Washington Territory	..	14	..	14
TOTAL	542	4425	277	5244

In addition to the above, our list contains 56 tri-weekly papers, 63 semi-weekly; 46 semi-monthly publications, 297 monthly, 4 bi-monthly, and 24 quarterly. Making the total number of all periodicals 5,734.

An Irish Fenian organ has recently been started here under the title of the *Irish Republic*, which blames the priesthood for a subserviency to the English rule.

Mr. Bowles, in declining an invitation to a dinner got up in his honour as "a man and an editor," by the citizens of Boston, gives the following opinions:—"My own observation is, that the Press rarely does injustice to a thoroughly honest man or cause. It may be deceived with regard to a private individual, and misrepresent him for a time; but, with reference to public men and measures, its knowledge is more intimate and complete than that of any other agency possibly can be; and I know that it withholds unjustly to the public one hundred times, where it speaks wrongly once of the individual. Certainly nine out of ten of all libel suits against the Press are brought by adventurers and speculators and scoundrels, whose contrivances to rob the public have been exposed."

SOL.

Among the weekly papers born with the year 1869 is one with an old name—the *New World*. It is a venture of Mr. Frank Leslie, whose success with many other publications affords good ground on which to predict the fortunes of this. The *New World* is typographically handsome, and in a literary point of view—being chiefly devoted to stories, light essays, poetry, and illustrations—it seems to be equal to the best, and superior to most of the similar sheets already in the field.

A very neatly printed little paper christened the *City* also appeared with the new year. Its price is three cents, and its aim to deal exclusively with matters pertaining to the town. The scheme offers distinctive features of popularity which, backed by capital and energy, may, in spite of numerous rivals, give the *City* an abiding hold on public attention and support.

A newspaper is published on board the steamer *Richmond*, one of the huge passenger palaces which ply between Louisville and New Orleans. It is called the *Richmond Head-Light*. It has two compositors and one editor, and is published six times during each trip, or about three times a week. It is intended to be a faithful expositor of river life, affording racy entertainment for the passengers, as well as an advertising medium for hotel proprietors and merchants.

The *Chicago Tribune*, which suffered so heavily a few days ago for an unflattering police item, now has the word "alleged" electrotyped, and uses it before every other word in its reports: "It is alleged that one Frederick Meyer, alleged to be doing business in this city, was arraigned before one Hoynes, who is alleged to be a commissioner of the United States, on yesterday. It is alleged that the alleged party charged with an alleged fraud upon an alleged government, assisted in some way in smuggling some alleged drugs, which are alleged to be of considerable value. It is alleged that the alleged case was postponed until Monday, alleged to be the 11th of January. It is further alleged that the alleged defendant was held to bail. It is alleged that the alleged Mr. Meyer, whom it is alleged kept an alleged drug store, being before an alleged commissioner, whose name is alleged to be Hoynes, was required to give a bond, which, it is alleged, requires the alleged Mr. Meyer to furnish for the payment of any sum of money which some enlightened, but not yet alleged jury, may allege against him, as damages sustained by the alleged government."

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

The *News*, formerly a tri-weekly paper of St. John's, New Brunswick, has come out as a daily, and is the only journal in the city worked by steam-power. The other daily is the *Globe*, an old-established evening paper.

A weekly paper, called the *Times*, has recently been started at Moncton, a town some eighty-nine miles distant from St. John, on the line of the E. & W. A. Railway.

In Halifax, Nova Scotia, the newspapers appear to be thriving remarkably well. The *Daily Morning Chronicle*, one of the best papers in that city, has been much improved in appearance; and two tri-weekly evening papers, the *Recorder* and *Reporter*, have recently been changed into dailies. Another evening tri-weekly, the *Express*, has been enlarged by the addition of a column to each page; and the *Colonist*, a tri-weekly morning paper, has also been much enlarged, and has donned a new dress, which gives it a very neat appearance. A religious paper called the *Church Chronicle of the Maritime Provinces* has also just been started at Halifax.

NEW ZEALAND.

DEATH OF MR. PARSONS.—This gentleman, formerly chief clerk in the Stamp Office, and afterwards, for a brief period, proprietor of the ill-fated *New Zealand Times*, died at Wanganui last week.—*Wellington Independent*, 27th October.

The *Christchurch Star* says that it is currently reported that the Napier (Hawkes' Bay) Press is about to pass into the hands of a joint-stock company (limited). The Hon. John Hall and the Hon. Mr. Stafford are spoken of as prominent shareholders.

Correspondence.

ENGLISH JOURNALISM IN THE "FAR EAST."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—I see that an inquiry has been excited or stimulated by a casual remark in your very valuable paper as to the condition of English (not vernacular), journalism, in what your correspondents are pleased to call the "far East," but which, with submission, I would venture to call "the (almost) unknown East." I do not presume to speak of India, on which you are so well informed, but in China we have—

IN HONG KONG.—The *Daily Press*, edited by Alfred Percy Smetton; the *China Mail*, edited by N. B. Dennys; and the *Echo do Povo*, edited by J. J. de Silva Souza.

IN SHANGHAI.—The *North China Herald*, edited by R. S. Gundry and sub-edited by W. G. Darling, with J. Broadhurst Tootal, as manager; the *Friend of China*, whose editor is William Tarrant; and the *Shanghai Recorder*, with A. C. Dulcken, as editor; at Hankow, the *Hankow Times*; at the Portuguese factory at Macao, *O Bolletim do Governo*, edited by J. da Silva.

In Japan, I believe, the *Japan Times* is admirably edited by Charles Rickerby, with B. Severa as its manager; the *Japan Gazette*, managed by J. H. Murray; and the *Japan Herald*. I have not seen the *Japan Punch*, mentioned by one of your correspondents; but "seeing," will be "believing." I await proofs.

Yours truly,

BARBARIAN.

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—FEB. 2.

(Sittings at Nisi Prius, before Mr. Baron BRAMWELL and a Special Jury.)

IMPORTANT CASE.—NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE REGULATIONS.
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL V. BRADLAUGH.

This was a prosecution against Charles Bradlaugh at the instance of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue. The first count stated that he printed and published a newspaper called the *National Reformer*, without having made the necessary declaration; the second count charged him with having sold the paper without making such declaration; and the third count charged him with having printed the paper without having entered into the recognisance or bond required by law. There were other counts repeating same charges in regard to other issues of the paper.

The Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and Mr. Crampton Hutton appeared for the Crown. The defendant appeared in person.

The Attorney-General said the law as to newspapers required two things to be done—first, that they should be registered, and next that the printers and publishers of them should enter into recognisances as a security against the publication of libels. The defendant had been requested to comply with the law in those respects, but had declined to do so. The question raised was whether the defendant's paper came within that definition. It was published weekly, and contained, first of all, articles on theological and metaphysical subjects. Then he found a summary of news, an account of a suicide, a paragraph about Mr. Speke, a column headed "Rough Notes," being a series of comments on events of the day, and reports of meetings. He contended that such a publication was clearly a newspaper within the meaning of the act. No doubt the principal object of the statute was

the enforcement of the stamp duty on newspapers, and the advertisement duty; but another object must have been the affording information to the public regarding newspapers, and when these duties were repealed the provision as to registration was continued. The second charge against the defendant was for not entering into recognisances in accordance with the provisions of the 16th Geo. III. and 1st Wm. IV. The Commissioners of Inland Revenue sent him the usual form to fill up, with the particulars required by the act, with a view to registration; but he refused to make the return, on the ground that he was advised that they had no authority to demand it, intimating that he should be prepared to submit the question for the decision of a competent tribunal.

Mr. Edward Tilsley, clerk in the office of the solicitor to the Inland Revenue Department, was called to prove that no declaration had been made, and no recognisance entered into, with respect to his paper.

In reply to the defendant, he said he believed there were no declarations and no recognisances in the cases of the *London Reader*, the *Family Herald* and the *Sporting Times*.

Mr. Baron Bramwell.—I do not see how these replies bear upon your case.

Mr. Bradlaugh.—I am going to raise the question, "What is a newspaper," and I propose showing that there are several papers of the same character as mine, as to the amount of news they contain, which are properly not registered and not treated by the Commissioners as newspapers.

Re-examined.—We have had nearly 800 fresh registrations in the last two years. When we receive information that a newspaper is being published, we send a circular to the publisher requesting him to register. We make no exception.

Mr. Bradlaugh submitted that as his publication only contained such news as referred to or illustrated its special object, and that as its main or general object was not to give the public information with regard to recent events, it was not a newspaper within the meaning of the act.

Mr. Baron Bramwell said he should hold as a matter of law, that although the periodical only gave such news as related to the particular doctrines and principles it advocated, yet it was a newspaper within the statutory definition; but there was sufficient doubt on the subject to justify him in giving the defendant leave to move the Court above to enter a verdict for him.

Ultimately, under his lordship's direction, a verdict was entered for the Crown, with two penalties of £50 each, on the first and fourth counts, and two penalties of £20 each on the third and sixth counts. A verdict was entered for the defendant on the other counts.

Leave was reserved to the defendant to move to enter a verdict for him on the point of law.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—FEB. 8.

(Sittings at Nisi Prius, in Middlesex, before Lord Chief Justice Bovill and a Special Jury.)

MILES AND OTHERS V. POTTER.

The plaintiffs are grocers, carrying on business in Great Marlborough-street and other places in London, and last year they were contractors to supply sugar to St. Pancras Workhouse. The defendant was the proprietor of the *Hackney and Kingsland Gazette*, and the action was to recover damages for two alleged libels published in that paper in reference to the way in which the plaintiffs had performed their contract. The articles complained of were these:—"Among the contractors was one who supplied sugar so called; there was some sugar among the rubbish supplied under that name to be sure, but there was more chalk, sand, and woody fibre than sugar, than had been bargained for and paid for. The inability of the consumers to speak for themselves or to complain had doubtless been calculated upon, and immunity was to follow of course; but for once the offending parties reckoned without their host; the master of the workhouse was honest, detected the character of the rubbish, and reported it to the guardians. These gentlemen, however, instead of proceeding against the contractor, as they should have done for a fraud, or putting his bond in suit, quietly let him off by terminating his contract."

Mr. Hawkins, Q.C. and Mr. Harrison appeared for the plaintiffs; and Mr. Prentice, Q.C., and Mr. Eyre Lloyd for the defendant.

On the part of the plaintiffs, it was stated their object was not damages, but the vindication of their character, and that they had endeavoured in every way they could to get the question as to the quality of the sugar they had supplied properly investigated. They had, however, failed in their endeavours, and as a last resource they sued the guardians for £120, the balance due, hoping that the board would resist payment, and so bring about an investigation; but instead of this, they sent a cheque for the sum claimed. The report of the master was an altogether *ex parte* proceeding. The Lord Chief Justice allowed one of the plaintiffs to state in evidence that the sugar was not adulterated in any way; but he refused to allow Dr. Medlock and other witnesses to give evidence upon the same head, holding that the question as to the adulteration was not put in issue by the pleadings. A circumstance in the case was that the plaintiffs had not demanded any apology from the defendant, but had issued their writ without sending any previous letter to him. A letter accompanied the writ, in which the plaintiff's attorneys said it was not their practice to commence proceedings without first giving notice of their intention; and added, "but in this case, from the nature of the libels, we have no doubt they were inserted by you after due consideration, and our clients feel, that even if you were to insert an apology, in the most abject terms, you could not even then undo the mischief that has been caused to them in consequence of the statement which you have published; and they have determined, therefore, to have the matter investigated by a legal tribunal."

The Lord Chief Justice directed the jury that if the articles complained of were fair comments upon an event of public interest, and were published without malice, the action could not be maintained; he added, however, that the question of libel or no libel was one which was entirely for the jury.

The jury found a verdict for the defendant; and added that they thought it was much to be regretted that the guardians had not given the plaintiffs an opportunity of clearing their character.

COURT OF CHANCERY.—FEB. 9.

(Before the Lords Justices.)

KELLEY V. HUTTON.—KELLEY V. M'MURRAY.—THE "SPORTING LIFE."

This was an appeal from an order made by Vice Chancellor Stuart on the 28th January last, whereby his honour appointed a receiver and manager of the newspaper called the *Sporting Life*. By the decree made by the Lords Justices in July last, in the first of the above suits, it was declared that the plaintiff, Mr. Kelly, was entitled to one-half share of the newspaper, subject to a lien in favour of Mr. Hutton and Mr. M'Murray. Since then Mr. M'Murray made a sale to a Mr. Hitchins, who afterwards registered himself as the sole proprietor of the paper. The record of the above suits was then instituted with a view of setting aside this suit as against the plaintiff, and the above order was made by the Vice-Chancellor. The defendants Hutton and M'Murray appealed. The sale to Mr. Hitchins has since been abandoned.

Their Lordships were of opinion that the Vice-Chancellor's order was right, and that the proceedings of the defendants had been adopted merely with a view to baffle the process of the court. The appeals were, therefore, refused with costs.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—DUBLIN, FEB. 15.

(Before the Lord Chief Justice and a Special Jury.)

LYNCH V. MAJOR KNOX, M.P.

This was an action brought by the plaintiff against Major L. E. Knox, proprietor of the *Irish Times*, for a libel alleged to have been published in that journal on the 27th of April last. Damages were laid at £1,000. The defences were, that the publication in question was not a libel, and that it was not published of and concerning the plaintiff.

Counsel for the plaintiff—The Solicitor General, Mr. Exham, Q.C., and Mr. Bewley.

For the defendant—Messrs. Macdonogh, Q.C., Robinson, Q.C., and W. B. Kaye, LL.D.

The Solicitor-General stated that the case arose out of the murder of Mr. Fetherstonhaugh. Plaintiff had been arrested for the murder, but, after being questioned, was immediately discharged from custody. Notwithstanding this, a letter appeared

in the *Irish Times* ignoring the discharge, and imputing to the plaintiff the baseness of having turned informer, and given evidence that led to the arrest of other men.

The plaintiff and several witnesses were examined to show that his business was much injured by the publication of the libel, and that a bad feeling had been created against him in the district in which he resided.

Mr. Macdonogh, Q.C., for the defence, contended that the letter written by the plaintiff to the *Irish Times* was at once inserted. The public were anxious for information respecting the murder of Mr. Fetherstonhaugh, and the Press were naturally desirous to communicate information respecting it. The letter was published in the ordinary course of business, and had the defendant been requested to give an apology he would have done so as readily as he set aside room for the plaintiff's letter of the 28th of April.

Mr. Sloane, sub-editor of the *Irish Times*, and several other witnesses were then examined for the defence.

The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, with £25 damages, and 6d. costs.

BAIL COURT.—A rule has been granted in this court for a criminal information against the proprietors of the *West End News* for a libel asserting misconduct on the part of the London Irish Volunteers on the occasion of the burial of a comrade.

Two actions for libel are pending in Dublin—one against the *Northern Whig* at the suit of one Betts, and the other against *Saunders' News Letter* by the Alliance Gas Company for certain reflections on the quality of their gas.

At the Guildhall Police court, Mr. James Irving Scott, the proprietor and editor of *The Reporter*; or, *the London Monetary Times*, has been summoned before Mr. Alderman Besley, charged with publishing a defamatory libel in that paper against Mr. Edmund Clench, in reference to certain proceedings which were instituted in Brussels against Mr. F. Doulton, late M.P. for Lambeth, in connection with the Belgian Public Works Company (Limited). The libel, which was very lengthy, charged Mr. Clench with starting many companies for his own personal benefit, with afterwards promoting amalgamations, for which he received large sums of money, both openly and under the rose, and also with wrecking others when it suited his purpose to do so, and he could pocket large sums of money by it. Mr. Clench gave evidence rebutting the accusation, but as he was not in attendance at the second hearing to complete his depositions, the case stands adjourned.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. WILLIAM CARLETON.

On the 31st of January, died at his residence in Sandford, at the age of 75, William Carleton, the Irish novelist. His connexion with the Press, as editor of a religious newspaper, was not of long duration, but it was sufficient to demand a notice in these columns. He was the son of a small farmer living at Clogher, in the county of Tyrone, and he mingled in the scenes which he depicted with such touching pathos and graphic power. He has worked up some of the incidents of his own career in his "Traits and Stories of the Irish Peasantry," which first introduced him to the public as an author, and among the most striking characters in it are persons of a type familiarly known to him. He was educated for the priesthood under great difficulties, but changed his mind and his course in life, and coming to Dublin with 2s. 9d. in his pocket, betook himself to literary pursuits. He became editor of the *Christian Examiner*, which journal was his first source of permanent employment, and contrasted rather strangely with the humorous tone of his works. He did not, however, very long remain in a position which was not quite in keeping with the character of his mind. He wrote a second series of "Traits and Stories," and a number of novels upon a larger scale. The most popular were "Fardonough the Miser," "The Fawn of Springvale," "Valentine McClutchy," "The Irish Agent," "The Black Prophet," and others of more modern production. His later works, commencing with the "Agent," were intended to depict some of the features of the Irish question, and had a political tendency differ-

ent from that of his first writings. He was allowed a pension of £200 a-year, and has left a numerous family utterly helpless, and dependent upon the hope of its continuance.

MR. CHARLES BALDWIN.

We have to announce the death, on the 18th ult., at his residence, Sussex-gardens, of Mr. Charles Baldwin, at the advanced age of 95 years. Mr. Baldwin, in the earlier period of his career, was a partner in one of the largest publishing firms in the City of London. Subsequently, about the time of the agitation for Catholic emancipation, and in conjunction with the late Dr. Giffard, Dr. M'Ginn, and other of the most brilliant political writers of that day, he established the *Standard* newspaper, of which he continued the sole proprietor for many years. He was also for many years proprietor of the *Morning Herald*. He was a magistrate for the county of Surrey, had long been the father of the Stationers' Company, and was one of the founders of the Royal Literary Fund.

Home Subjects.

THE price of the *Canadian News* has been reduced to twopence. THE price of the *Observer* has been reduced to threepence.

THE PERIODICAL WORLD.—Edmund Yates has retired from the post of editor of *Tinsley's Magazine*.

A PAPER entitled the *Twickenham Observer* has been started for local circulation.

THE *Tobacco Trade Review* is a new publication that has been launched in the interest of tobaccoists.

OUT of 141 newspapers in Scotland, only 12 are Conservative. —*Herts Advertiser*.

A NEW weekly penny local paper for the districts north of London started on the 6th of February, under the title of the *North Londoner*.

A NEW weekly paper has been started, for which the copyright of the *Atlas* has been purchased, and the new venture is entitled, *The Atlas and Public Schools Chronicle*.

THE *Queen's Messenger*, announced in the last number of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*, is said to have Captain Herbert Byng Hall for its editor.

A NEW PAPER has been started, entitled the *Insurance Review and Commercial World*. It will be principally devoted to insurance matters.

MR. JUSTIN MCCARTHY, late of the *Morning Star*, and now of the New York Press, is writing a serial story in "Belgravia," called "My Enemy's Daughter."

THE *Tomahawk* has been purchased by its editor and artist, Messrs. Arthur A'Beckett and Matt. Morgan, from the estate of Mr. Hudson, its late proprietor.

Mrs. LYNN LINTON, the wife of the celebrated engraver, Mr. W. J. Linton, is said to be the author of the "Girl of the Period" essays in the *Saturday Review*.

MR. MOY THOMAS has succeeded Mr. John Hollingshead as dramatic critic to the *Daily News*, Mr. Hollingshead having taken the "Gaiety" Theatre.

DR. W. H. RUSSELL is attending the visit of the Prince of Wales to Egypt as special correspondent for the *Times*. Among other things he is especially to describe the Suez canal.

THE LIBEL BILL.—In the House of Commons on the 23rd ult., Mr. Baines obtained leave to bring in a bill, similar to that of Sir Colman O'Loughlen, to amend the Law of Libel.

A NEW LOCAL PAPER is announced to appear on the 18th instant under the title of the *Stoke Newington Advertiser and Hornsey Courier*, price one penny.

ANOTHER "COMIC" PAPER, the *Razor*, is defunct, and the "back stock" being sold by itinerant vendors on the kerbstones for a penny a lot.

THE Proprietor of the *Universal News*, a Roman Catholic newspaper, has commenced an action against the Roman Catholic bishop of Birmingham, for a libel on the paper contained in one of the bishop's pastoral letters.

LONDON LOCAL PAPERS.—Among recent additions to the London district Press are the *City of Westminster Gazette* (October, 1868), *Kensington Gazette* (October 9), and *Kensington and Belgravia Gazette*.

It does not argue well for the public taste that the success accorded to the "Girl of the Period Almanack" has induced the proprietors to start a new monthly, under the title of the *Girl of the Period Miscellany*.

"FLIBBERTIGIBBETT" is a new magazine that is announced for the avowed purpose of proclaiming war to the knife against humbug, snobbery, jobbery, corruption, sensationalism, sensualism, extremes, and extravagance.

NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND DINNER.—The managing committee of the Newspaper Press Fund have appointed Saturday, the 5th of June, for the anniversary dinner, at Willis's Rooms, at which Mr. Reverdy Johnson, the American envoy, will preside. It is expected that the attendance on this interesting occasion will embrace several leading members of both branches of the legislature, and a numerous gathering of literary and artistic friends of the institution.

"WILL O' THE WISP."—From a published correspondence between Mr. Hamilton Hume, Mr. Childers, and other officials, and a conversation in the House of Commons, it has transpired that the late Government ordered 96 copies of *Will o' the Wisp* to be supplied weekly for the amusement of Her Majesty's seamen on foreign stations, and that the present Government, on coming into office, rescinded the order.

NEWSPAPER STATISTICS.—There are now published in the United Kingdom 1,372 newspapers, distributed as follows:

England—			
London	260		
Provinces	779	1089	
Wales	51		
Scotland	186		
Ireland	181		
British Isles	15		

Of these there are—

63 Daily Papers published in England			
1	Wales		
11	Scotland		
18	Ireland		
1	British Isles.		

In 1859 there were published in the United Kingdom 966 journals; of these 43 papers were issued daily—viz., 30 in England, 6 in Scotland, and 7 in Ireland; but in 1869 there are now established and circulated 1,372 papers, of which no less than 89 are issued daily, showing that the Press of the country has very greatly extended during the last ten years, and more especially so in daily papers, the daily issues standing 89 against 43 in 1859.—*From the Newspaper Press Directory*, just out.

NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.—At a special general meeting of the members of this institution, held on the 18th ult., at the offices, 24, Cecil-street, Strand; Lord Houghton, the president, in the chair; the supplementary report and balance-sheet for the six months ending Dec. 31st, 1868, showed that the invested capital of the society now stands at the sum of £4,422 11s. 7d., consist-

ing of £3,122 11s. 7d. New Three Per Cents.; £700 Great Indian Peninsular Railway Debentures; and £600 Eastern Bengal Railway stock, guaranteed by the Imperial Government. The grants made by way of relief during the past half-year amount to £165; or, for the whole year just elapsed, to £305. The amounts so granted range from £10 to £50, and the cases relieved were 15 in number, all of them being of such a character as clearly to indicate the value of the benefits derivable under the fund. The roll book of the society comprises 247 members, of whom 170 are resident in London, and 77 in the country. The number of life members is 61.

THE magazines now in course of publication, including the quarterly reviews, number 655, of which 248 are of a decidedly religious character, representing the Church of England, Wesleyans, Methodists, Baptists, Independents, and other Christian communities.

Notes and Queries.

NOVICE.—By the 8th and 7th Wm. IV., c. 76, a person, before printing or publishing a newspaper, is to deliver to the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes a declaration giving its title, place of publication, and the name and address of the printer. A newspaper chargeable with duty is defined by the schedule attached to the act as a paper containing public news, intelligence, or occurrences, or any remarks or observations thereon, printed and published weekly or oftener, or at intervals not exceeding twenty-six days.

S. R. P.—The largest issue of a provincial paper took place on the execution of the Fenians Allen, Larkin, and Gould at Manchester on Nov. 22, 1867. *The Manchester Examiner and Times* of the next day issued in its daily and weekly editions 192,645 copies, which were supplied at the rate of 35,000 per hour, or nearly 600 per minute. The total number of pages printed was upwards of one million and a half, and the weight of paper consumed, 38,000 pounds, or fourteen and a half tons.

Obituary.

ASSUR, DR., at Schwerin, editor of the *Schweriner Courier*.

BALDWIN, CHARLES, at Sussex-gardens, Hyde Park, on the 18th ult., aged 95, many years proprietor of the *Morning Herald* and the *Standard*.

CARLETON, WILLIAM, at Dublin, Jan 31st, aged 75, an Irish novelist, and formerly editor of the *Christian Examiner*.

HIRSCH, L., at Kosteck, proprietor and publisher of the *Mecklenburgisches Tageblatt*.

JANKE, WILHELM, at Breslau, editor of the *Landwirthschaftliche Zeitung* of that city.

KJELLMAN GORANSON, J. A., at Stockholm, many years editor of the *Preis*. LOIZ, MRS. GEORGE, editor of the *Origination* of Hamburg, founded by her husband in 1823.

MADONAGLE, HOW. S. R., editor of the *Ocean Wave*, Cape May, New Jersey, United States.

OLKERS, THEODORE HERMAN, at Leipzig, formerly editor of the *Deutsche Zeitung*, at Porto Allegre, and afterwards, and until his death, editor of the *Mecklenburger Zeitung*, of Schwerin.

STURENBECKER, DR. PHIL. J., a Swedish journalist of Helsingborg.

WINARSKY, REV. CANON EARL, at Prague, connected with the Czechish Press of that city.

PARTNERSHIP DISSOLVED.

BRISCOME and Co., Doncaster, newspaper proprietors.

Honourable Mention Awarded for Printing Materials, Class XXVIII., No. 5291, International Exhibition, 1862.

COMPOSITION ROLLER AND PRINTING MATERIAL MANUFACTORY.

FREDERICK ULLMER,

WOOD LETTER CUTTER, BRASS RULE MAKER,

AND

MANUFACTURER OF PRINTING MACHINES,

Of Every Description, by Steam Power and the most Approved Machinery,

15, OLD BAILEY, LONDON, E.C.

(ESTABLISHED 1825.)

H. S. CROPPER & CO.'S PATENT "MINERVA" PRINTING MACHINE.

This is the most Compact, Elegant, and Speedy,
Platen Machine ever made.

CAN BE WORKED BY HAND, FOOT, OR STEAM.

One Youth may Print



2,500 Impressions per Hour.

MAY BE SEEN AT WORK DAILY AT
H. S. CROPPER & Co.'s, NOTTINGHAM,
Patentees and Manufacturers;
AND AT THE OFFICE OF THE LONDON AGENT,
S. CROPPER, 70, CHEAPSIDE.

TESTIMONIALS.

31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

Messrs. H. S. CROPPER and Co.
GENTLEMEN,—We have pleasure in informing you that the "Minerva" Printing Machine, supplied to us about two months ago, gives us entire satisfaction. The simplicity of its arrangement, beauty of construction, and excellence of workmanship, combined with its other qualifications, justify all that you told us in its favour. The ease of its motion, and its great speed, are important features in the "Minerva;" whilst the freedom from danger in working assists in rendering it a very desirable machine.

Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

Messrs. CROPPER and Co., Nottingham.

GENTLEMEN,—We most willingly give our testimony to the value and efficiency of your "Minerva" Machine, especially with regard to its speed and economy. We consider it the most useful time-saving machine that has come under our notice.

We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
CURTIS and BEAMISH.

6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

DEAR SIR,—We have pleasure in stating that the "Minerva" Machine supplied to us gives satisfaction in every respect.

As a Machine for Cards and Small Jobs, we consider it unequalled, both in quality of work and the ease by which Jobs can be started.

Your Machine deserves a large sale.

Yours truly (for M'CORQUODALE and Co.),

D. CULROSS.

Since the above testimonial was given, Messrs. M'Corquodale and Co. have ordered a second machine.

Messrs. CROPPER and Co.

Halifax, 23rd October, 1867.

GENTLEMEN,—The "Minerva" gives entire satisfaction. Every movement is smooth and easy, and the machine may, on this account, be run at a very high speed without danger. The distribution is perfect, and the forme is rolled more evenly than could be done by hand. We are very much pleased with it.

We are, Gentlemen, yours most truly,

T. and W. BIRTWHISTLE.

WOOD ENGRAVING

IN ALL ITS BRANCHES,

With Superior Finish, Economy, and Despatch,

BY

ALFRED R. DORRINGTON & CO.,

22 CHANCERY LANE

LONDON.

RED LION SQUARE, LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,

The Engravings you have supplied for our Illustrated Price Current give us great satisfaction.

Yours truly,

JAMES PERRY & CO.

GENTLEMEN,

We are perfectly satisfied with the Engravings just sent home.

Yours obediently,

PARKINS & GOTTO.

ILLUSTRATED SPECIMEN BOOK FOR 1868 POST FREE.

ESTIMATES, WITH TESTIMONIALS FROM EMINENT LONDON FIRMS, ON APPLICATION.

Patent "Moss" Rubber Inking Roller.

S. MOULTON & CO., KINGSTON INDIA RUBBER MILLS, BRADFORD-ON-AVON,

BEG to call the attention of the Printing Trade generally to their PATENT "MOSS" RUBBER INKING ROLLER, composed of a new and homogeneous material of the consistency of Moss, and hermetically sealed in a smooth skin of specially prepared India Rubber.

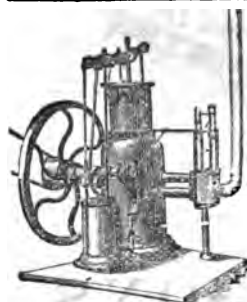
The advantages they claim for these Rollers, as compared with the ordinary Composition Rollers, are,—

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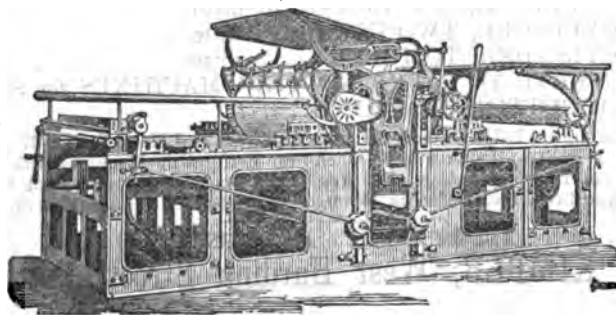
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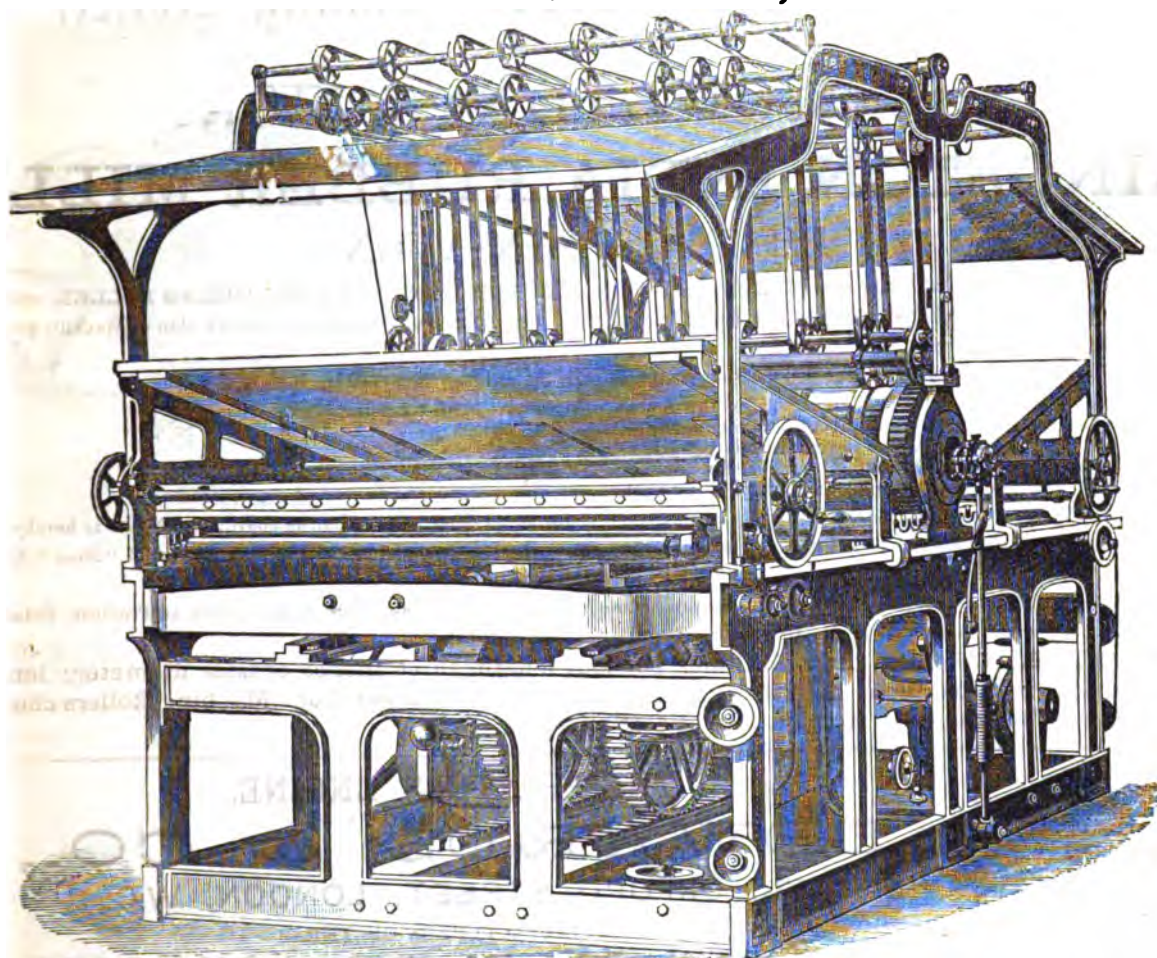
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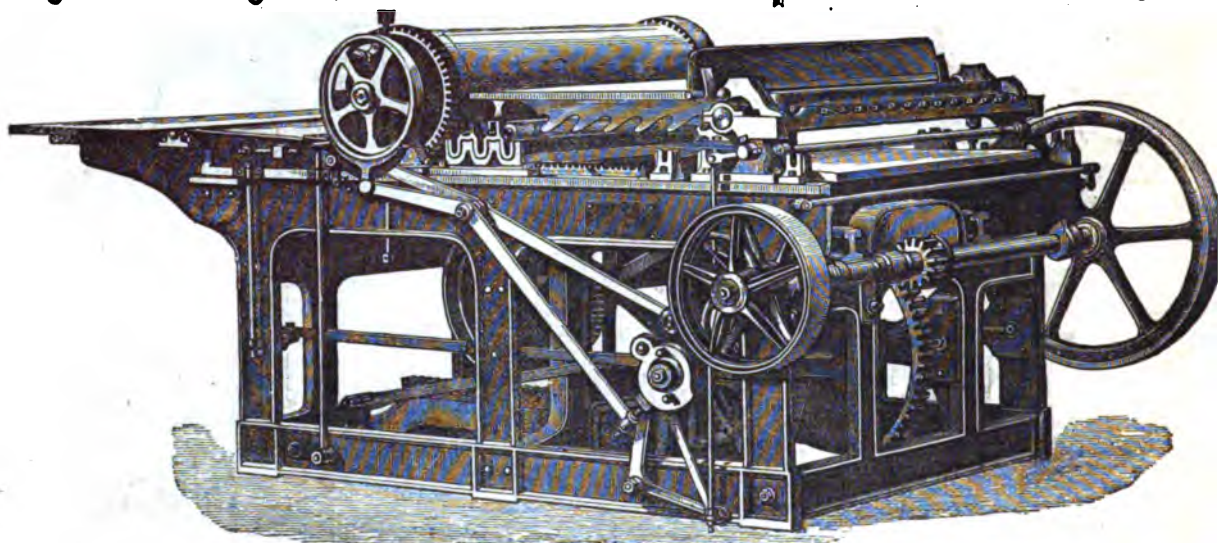
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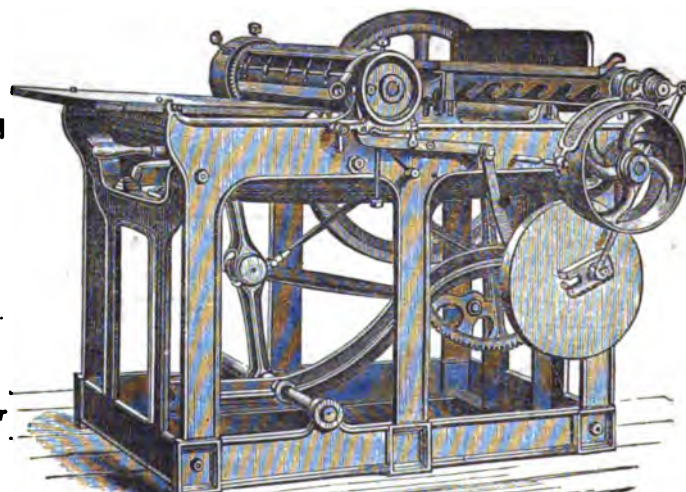
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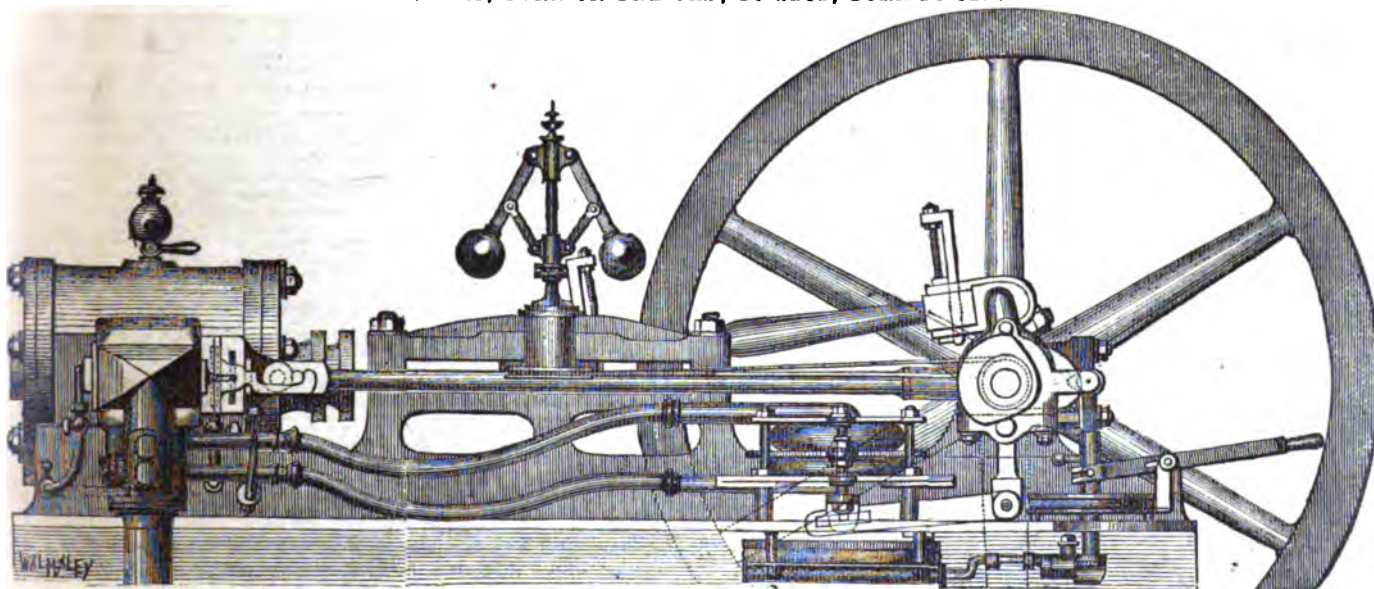
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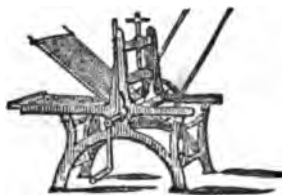
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THE debate in the House of Commons on the second reading of Mr. Baines' Libel Bill, on the 18th ultimo, exhibited the features which we have become accustomed to on previous occasions.

Mr. Baines repeated with force and eloquence the arguments adduced by Sir Colman O'Loughlin in 1867, and with special reference to reports of public meetings, remarked—

"With respect to public meetings, he considered them the very spring of progress and improvement of England—the means of upholding liberty and exposing abuses. Public meetings would be of no value unless the proceedings were published in the newspapers, which were the true organs of public meetings. At these meetings controversies arose, aspersions were sometimes cast on individuals, and published in the newspapers, but the newspapers could not do their duty without publishing them. At present, if any person was defamed he could bring an action, and would even run the risk of getting a verdict after the lapse of a considerable time. By this Bill he proposed that the proprietor should be liable to be called upon by the person injured to insert an explanation furnished by him without charge, in a conspicuous part of the newspaper, and that it should be the duty of the proprietor, if he wished to exempt himself from an information, to insert such explanation. That was one way in which the injured person might obtain redress. But there was another. If any person made defamatory charges maliciously or imprudently, he proposed that the author of the libel, and not the innocent publisher, should be liable. The third clause gave power to the person thus defamed to call upon the defamer to insert an apology or retraction in as widely-circulated a paper as that in which the defamation appeared, at no expense, and that might be done in two or three days."

Mr. Newdegate opposed the Bill on the same grounds as before, adding—

"The present law of libel was drawn by Lord Campbell, who, in the commencement of his career, was a reporter in the gallery of the House of Commons, and was therefore able to form a correct opinion upon the whole subject. That noble lord swept away many of those means of oppression which existed prior to the passing of his Act. He proved that the public should expect every newspaper proprietor to exercise a discretion not over the notes of the reporters that came in in different hands, and in a hurry, but over the proofs when printed, which was the only form in which reports were submitted to the editor or sub-editor. . . . The effect of this Bill passing would be that although the reporter was not an agent of the speaker, and had really no connection with him, yet the latter would be liable for what the former attributed to him. The speaker, in fact, would be liable to be prosecuted for the want of discretion of one who was not acting on his behalf. A speaker at public meetings would, in short, be required to prove a negative. Words, for instance, might be attributed to him in a form and in a connection in which he had not certainly used them; and he might be held responsible for words the meaning of which had been changed. Unless he had a reporter by his side who took down all that he said, he would, in fact, have no evidence to set up against that of the reporter who may have attributed to him certain expressions.

. . . . They had heard some remarks about fair reports; but what was a fair report? Was it to be conceived that local newspapers could give a full report of every speech made at every meeting which took place? (Hear, hear.) That was out of the question, and yet no report, which was not a full report, could be a fair report. An abridged or summarised report was the work of the intellect of the reporter, and not the production of the speaker. (Hear, hear.) Isolated passages were taken without their context, and, being put together, they did not convey the meaning of the speaker. The Press was already possessed of great powers, but he thought it would be dangerous to exempt them from the responsibility to which they were at present liable, and to exempt them at the expense of the public speaker. For these reasons he should move that the Bill be read a second time upon that day six months."

Mr. Liddel seconded the motion.

Mr. Thomas Chambers said—

"This was not a question for relieving a certain section of persons in the community from a supposed grievance, but a question which really touched some of the first principles of constitutional law. (Hear, hear.) It bore, for instance, upon the vital question of liberty of speech. (Hear, hear.) That freedom was one of the most important privileges secured to the people by the constitution of this country—one which lay at the very foundation of all our liberties, and it, therefore, became important to consider whether, if this Bill were passed, that privilege would not be seriously impaired. . . . The hon. member for Leeds had stated that numerous petitions had been presented in favour of the measure, but that did not show the magnitude of the grievance. He (Mr. Chambers) had taken the trouble of inquiring into the matter, and he found that there had in all only been 12 petitions presented, and these were signed by 16 persons. That certainly did not show that the grievance was widespread. . . . He believed that many provincial papers circulated a large number of copies in consequence of their inserting personalities spoken at public meetings, for it was imagined that they made the report more spicy, especially if the person was known whose character was sifted. (Hear, hear.) If the publication of such matter was of so much importance, the proprietor should be liable if any of the virulence and abuse were left out. The truth was, the newspapers generally did leave it out. He was more familiar with the London than with the provincial Press; but of the London Press he might say that they were not interested in the Bill, because they did leave it out. The grievance was that the editor said he must get his paper out in time to print and circulate it, and in order to enable him to do so he had to do this injustice."

Mr. Dowse warmly supported the Bill, and correcting the Common Sergeant in his law, explained the difference between slander and libel:—

"The distinction between libel and slander was well known to the law of England, but it was founded on no national principle. It was not slander unless it imputed want of chastity to a woman or want of courage to a man, misconduct in his trade or profession, the commission of an indictable offence, or that he suffered from a contagious disease. (A laugh.) It was a libel to print or write anything of a man which was calculated to create feelings of hatred, or contempt, or ridicule of him."

Mr. W. Williams said—

"That the law of libel had its origin at a time when the art of printing was in its infancy, and when public meetings scarcely ever took place. There was no distinction known to the law of Scotland or of France between written and oral slander, and the House ought to put the law of this country on the same footing as that of the law of Scotland and of France."

Mr. Ayrton was pleading for delay when the hour for closing discussion arrived, and the debate was adjourned.

YEAR by year the public Press is better understanding its mission as a censor, and nobly fulfilling it. Moral evils which the law cannot cure, and the pulpit *does* not reach, the Press (and we of course use the term in the highest sense of respectable journalism, ignoring for the nonce, the minor fry which pander to such vice, and make a profit of it) risks profit, popularity, and sneers, in the fulfilment of a sacred duty, which its very power imposes on it, to correct. The mean and frightfully degenerating spirit of gambling has reached the very schoolboys of the present generation. Not only the fast collegian, but the little boy at an endowed school, thinks it "the right thing" to "have something on ' the

Derby or the Boat Race, while the working man, with very little legitimate time to acquire the necessary knowledge of "the stables," "the trial heats," and the training secrets, becomes the victim of a class of detestable, thievish harpies, who hang outside public-houses and call themselves "book-makers."

Now, we are not going to write a homily against these wretched swindlers; the much belauded "working man," who is not devoid of a sense of self protection (albeit, it has suited the purpose of rival politicians to invest him with a superior intelligence which he himself lays no claim to) must abide the issue if he be fool enough to 'play fly to the spider, though his wife and children starve for it—the clerkling and the apprentice must "do" their hard labour for stealing their employers' money to pay their losses, though their parents' hearts break for it. Fools must be punished as well as knaves, for the good of the community, though innocent people may suffer collaterally. And of the very worst class of fools are *betting fools*, who cannot be suspected of the slightest knowledge of their trade.

But ever and anon the Press lifts up its voice in warning—a voice that comes before the law's, because, if attended to, it is preventive instead of corrective; a voice louder than the pulpit's, because it deals with the curse before the curse has fallen. We have carefully watched the tone taken of late years in this respect by such monitors as the *Times*, the *Daily News*, the *Standard*, among the daily Press, and the *Examiner*, the *Saturday Review*, the *Spectator*, and other of the weekly Press, and we proudly feel that it is FALSE to say that our leading journals follow the temper of the times; and we boldly assert that, on the contrary (politics aside), they are doing a service to European morals and to English honour that will tell upon generations, to whom their names may be simply historical.

As a clearer illustration of what we are desirous of expressing without going out of our special line, and mixing our journal with the vexed questions in religion and politics which are distracting the country, we quote some remarks from the *Morning Star* for the sole purpose of illustrating the spirit which we are happy to recognise in an organ not generally suspected of squeamishness, but which will show that the Press, low or high priced, is true to its mission, and will not abandon its conscience for the sake of a popularity among the very class it is supposed to appeal to:—"We have touched in the last sentence on the objectionable feature of the day, which underlies all the hearty joviality of the scene, and stains the gay streamers which flutter in the breeze. It is the extensive, growing, and vicious habit of betting in which the young and inexperienced indulge alike with the old and callous. If we believe the spectacle to be inseparable from the dark shadow which passed over the multitude like a blight, we should feel called upon to utter a warning, however little likely to be heeded. Can we not enjoy a holiday, or go to look upon a trial of skill, or watch the play of limb of noble coursers, without plunging recklessly and madly into money speculation on the result? Is no phase of modern life to be sacred from the lust of gain? Even our sports but seem to minister to this disease, which is eating into the rising generation, and if not checked will bear bitter fruit." We could, if speaking on the subject of betting, of course, have taken higher authorities, but we do not know that we could have selected a better chosen use of words—and certainly for the purposes of this article, no fitter illustration of the conscientious discharge of its duty by the public Press. And in that regard we are proud to say that there are *Morning Stars* all over the kingdom of every shade of political opinion who are bold and honest enough to express their opinion in the interest of truth and morals, regardless in the faithful discharge of their calling, of stupid habits and vicious tastes which lead up, on a very slightly inclined plane, to crime. We leave it, then, with these remarks, an open question—Is the Press or the pulpit the best practical and effective teacher? Honour to both; but it is a question of degree.

REGISTRATION OF NEWSPAPERS.—Among the many useful measures which the Government has matured, it is gratifying to know that it is about to table a bill which will enable those who have embarked in the publication of newspapers to carry out their profession with the same freedom as ordinary business is conducted.—*Newcastle Daily Chronicle*.

MEN OF THE PRESS.

By CYRUS REDDING.

No. XVIII.—JAMES HOGG.

FOR few who in these busy days are given to reflect upon abstract subjects, there is not one whose history is more worthy of study and research than that of which Hogg, better known as the "Ettrick Shepherd," furnishes an example. There is no instance that we know of where genius has ever overcome more obstacles in making its appearance in the world. Precocious talent, as in the singular case of Chatterton and a few others, may be quoted under one peculiar phase of genius, if we may so term it. But Hogg had reached the maturity of manhood with those habits and modes of thinking and acting which are in general so rife at that period, as to have produced the remark from no slight observer of human nature, that at twenty-one years of age man is all he ever will be, speaking relatively of the majority of his species. We believe Hogg was barely able to read a plain chapter in the Bible at twenty years of age. Of writing he was not a master until after he was over twenty years. Born and bred among the lowest class in rustic life, he overcame all by dint of that mysterious power denominated "genius," though in his case only in a moderate sense, and left a name behind him which, while it did not approach in merit that of his countryman Burns—far from it—yet is one of the most singular on record for an exhibition of the power of the natural bent of a few minds for overcoming obstacles apparently insurmountable under the most adverse circumstances. James Hogg was the second son of Robert Hogg, and was born in January, 1772. Robert Hogg was a shepherd originally, and then commenced a dealer in sheep for himself, failed when his son James was but seven years old, and was compelled for the future to follow the humble pursuit of a shepherd himself for the remainder of his days. At the early age of seven James Hogg was hired for a ewe lamb and a new pair of shoes half yearly; scanty wages! He was to herd cows for a farmer, at which time his learning extended as far as to reading the Proverbs of Solomon and the Shorter Catechism. He had tried to learn a little writing, but was not successful.

In the foregoing humble and wearying life he served a dozen masters, and had read no book but the Bible. At fourteen years of age he had contrived to save five shillings, with which he bought an old violin, and though he was scarcely clothed at the time, he laboured at this old instrument in stables and cowhouses, where he often took up his lodgings for the night. He was in his eighteenth year when he got a sight of "The Life and Adventures of William Wallace," and of the "Gentle Shepherd." These he read and re-read, but had a difficulty in understanding such works. From them he proceeded to read other books while serving a farmer with whom he remained ten years. This farmer had some books, and here Hogg began to try his hand at composition. He composed and corrected his pieces in his mind or on a slate, making marks of his own rather than letters, and no alteration afterwards. Although he was in the land of Burns, he had never heard of him until the year after the poet expired, or in 1797, when he first heard "Tam O'Shanter" repeated, with which he was enraptured. A new life seemed now to commence with him, and he resolved he would be a poet, but wept because he could not write like other people. He longed to live to be compared to Burns. He tried psalms in English verse, and wrote his first song that ever publicly appeared, "Donald McDonald," in 1800. This song attracted some notice for itself, but no one ever asked about its author, with the usual disregard of the people of these islands towards genius. Had he been a millionaire, how, in addition to notice, he would have been exalted as a Solomon! The song or the music gratified the ear, but though thus gratified, who cared about the author? Was his purse full? Hogg only illustrated the bias of the island. As long as the selfishness of the individual was gratified by the song, what mattered it who wrote it or where it came from? In a "nation of shopkeepers" this was but the natural feeling. Poor Hogg's song was sung at regimental messes, and in all companies, but still no one asked, for no one cared, about who was its author. He soon felt that a popular song conferred not half the applause on its writer that it did on him who "fiddled" it. He did not know that it was the same in all trading nations, however different it had been in Greece and Rome.

The foregoing song was published in a collection by Messrs. Blackwood. It was thus the Shepherd's public career may be said to have begun, although, as in all cases of an early display of genius, he met every discouragement. His writing was a folly. "He should have gone to manual work and got money," said the man of Mammon. At length Sir Walter Scott noticed, and extended to him a kind hand. He published a work upon sheep, which produced £300, an inexhaustible treasure in his view. He took a farm, and this soon rendered him penniless. He then went to Edinburgh, where he published a periodical, which quickly failed, his knowledge being too confined for a work of this nature. He next published the "Queen's Wake," which gave him lasting fame, but, as is too often the case, a mercenary bookseller managed to engross the profits.

He had now, by dint of combating obstacles that might be thought insurmountable, made himself a name. The Duke of Buccleugh became his patron, and presented him with a small farm called Altrive, with a comfortable cottage near a rivulet in the bosom of the country. The ground was attached about 25 or 30 acres, and here he domesticated himself.

Some have said Hogg projected "Blackwood's Magazine." This the present writer has been assured was not a fact, on the authority of Thomas Pringle, and also on that of Lockhart. Poor Hogg had not a small share of vanity in his composition after he came out upon the world's stage, and he never contradicted what flattered that homely weakness. Thus, while he affected to be displeased at the jests of Professor Wilson regarding himself, which appeared in "Blackwood's Magazine," the professor assured the present writer that Hogg in reality liked to be noticed, although he affected to be displeased.

We yet see him in imagination, with his healthful look, sturdy figure, and honest plain features. He was about the middle height. In his manner he was not forward, but possessed a strong sense of that species of inward power which attaches even to uneducated genius. His features were not indicative of the ability he really possessed. He was fond of rustic pursuits, the habitude of which in his earlier years had not weakened by time. As I remember, his eyes were grey and clear, even after the whisky-drinking society of Edinburgh, where he said he had been once or twice drunk into a fever. This was not an habitual sin of Hogg's, but he had been led into it by the devilry of the place. "Villainous company," as Falstaff has it, was a great temptation in a city once so highly meriting the praises it received for the genius and learning it tendered to the world, although there was the drawback of conceit in its calling itself the "Modern Athens," since it is not what we think of ourselves that must stamp our character.

We never met Hogg but in London, where his companion was John Murray, the bookseller. Singular to say, Hogg dared not cross a street by himself while in town without Murray's arm—himself feeble at that time—but so confused was the brain of poor Hogg with the multitude of people, the bustle of the streets, and the idea he might be lost in them, that he dared not move about alone, yet the bibliopolist was a better guide than a support. Hogg complained of his bewilderment, and of a feeling he should never be found again if left to himself. We remember a parallel case in respect to a man from one of the western counties, who, being left alone for a time in London, wandered about until he became mentally prostrate, and never wholly recovered his reason.

Hogg was thus one of the most remarkable examples of what natural talent is capable, in emerging out of a state of life the most remote from that under which he obtained his celebrity. There is, of course, little or no refinement in his writings, but much of nature. He had no inconsiderable share of vanity—indeed the dialogues in "Blackwood's Magazine," stretched somewhat into caricature, include a pretty accurate portrait of the vanity of the man. Yet of the tens of thousands in England in the like worldly circumstances, how few, if any, have ever achieved what he did under such disadvantages, for Bloomfield and Savage were not cases in point. On the whole, he remains in this respect a very singular example of what nature and genius can effect alone—in a walk of life, too, of all others that in which artificial aid and mental culture appear the most requisite, and must ever be supposed to be farthest removed from the reach of the forlorn and uneducated.

[The subject of this memoir was connected with Sir Walter Scott's unfortunate newspaper venture, the *Beacon*.—Ed. N. P.]

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

VII.—IMPUTATION OF CORRUPT CONDUCT.

THE action, *Ryan v. Wood*, in the Court of Queen's Bench, February 8th, 1866, was brought by a musical critic against a music publisher, proprietor of the *Orchestra*, for a libel published in that paper, imputing to the plaintiff corruption in the exercise of his vocation. The plaintiff, Desmond Ryan, had been the musical critic for two daily papers, the *Morning Herald* and the *Standard*, and was also the sub-editor of the *Musical World*. He had got up, for his own benefit, certain concerts, designated "Monster Concerts," at which celebrated singers had sung gratuitously for him; and the suggestion in the libel was, that the plaintiff's influence, as critic for the papers with which he was connected, had been used to obtain their services. The libel was headed "Black Mail in Journalism;" and the plaintiff was thus described: "He is a little journalist, with a soul for big concerts. Of no earthly account in this thronged world of London, where stronger, better men 'choke every roaring gate,' he yet manages to hold some moral magnifying glass before him, so that the weak-eyed are astonished at the magnitude of his influence. Were that influence tested, it would be found that, though he dipped his pen in gall and fire, and though a hundred Desmond Ryans, of the same calibre, helped him, they could not keep down true merit, or deck with laurels the brow of incapacity. And yet certain weak, foolish, good-hearted artists think such men are powerful, and are glad to keep them in good humour. So when this Desmond Ryan conceives money would benefit him (and when will money not?) he goes, like his colleague and exemplar, to these plastic singers and musicians, and the poor creatures are ready to lend their art and hearts and souls to obtain the critic's smile. Then the great concert comes off, and the critic nets the proceeds, and the honour of journalism is shamed. . . . The laxity of those imposed on, allows this system of black mail to flourish. A popgun is presented at their heads, and they suffer their pockets to be rifled. But let this easy negligence continue, and we shall see the black mail extended too; for if artists can be written up or written down by the highwaymen of the Press, why not men of all callings? A little more of this, and we shall have our Desmond Ryans getting gratuitous gloves and boots and joints of meat, by force of a paragraph levelled at their hosier, shoemaker, and butcher. Shall brigandage in the British Press continue? Will not our brethren of the daily journals aid us indignantly to denounce it, and at the same time to open the eyes and encourage the hearts of the pusillanimous artists."

In support of the plaintiff's case, the plaintiff himself gave evidence. He stated that those artists whose names, on his giving his annual concerts, were announced in the bills issued on those occasions, were his own friends, with a single exception, and they had volunteered to sing for him. There was no pretence, he said, for stating that he had used undue or improper means to induce them to sing for him. They sang gratuitously for him, and he was on such terms with them that they might naturally do so.

The plaintiff's evidence, as above, was confirmed by the testimony of the following witnesses who were examined on his behalf:—Mr. Sims Reeves, Madame Sainton Dolby, Madame Lancia, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. Benedict. No evidence was given on the part of the defendant to establish a plea of justification which he put in, namely, that the libel was true.

The Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, in his observations to the jury characterized the libel as one of a very serious kind. He said:—"To impute to a public writer who writes public criticisms upon the performances of others that he is induced to give or to withhold praise, or to pronounce censure from interested motives, is to make a charge of the greatest turpitude, for it is a charge of the basest and most dishonourable conduct. Those who undertake to enlighten public opinion and public taste in matters of literature or art undertake a most important—I had almost said a sacred—trust. It is not only that the public look to them upon matters in which the public must be necessarily less informed or enlightened, for assistance in the formation of their judgment and their taste; but it is also this—that those who are struggling in

the race of public competition for public favour, as the means of their livelihood or success in life, have a right to expect that their performances shall be scanned by fair and impartial critics; for, of course, it would make all the difference to the artist whether he is praised or censured in journals of extensive circulation. There are few of those who constitute the general public who are competent to form an opinion upon these subjects. Let any man ask himself, when the next Exhibition opens, and we all go to see the pictures there—who is there who will not look to the criticisms which appear in the public papers to enable him to judge as to the works of art to which his attention may be called? Who is there who will not judge more or less of these performances according to the public criticisms which he may have seen? In like manner as to the performances of musical artists or others, who is there who does not more or less judge of their merits according to what he reads in the papers, written by those who have made criticism their business, and who we all believe—I doubt not justly believe—to be fair, and faithful, and honest, so as to assist us in forming a judgment on matters which some of us could hardly judge of if left to our own unassisted resources? It is impossible, therefore, to exaggerate the importance of these criticisms, being conducted with the highest sense of honour, impartiality, and justice; and as, on the one hand, we cannot exaggerate the importance of this solemn duty being honestly and faithfully discharged, so, on the other hand, we cannot well exaggerate the grave and serious character of a charge which imputes to a man that he has acted on sordid and mercenary motives, and has sold corrupt criticisms instead of giving the public and the profession the benefit of his fair and honest judgment. I quite agree, indeed, that the system which has been pursued by Mr. Ryan—whatever may have been his criticisms, and although they may have been perfectly pure and unsullied—is one on which a public writer has the most unquestionable right to comment with perfect freedom and with great severity. But, unfortunately, the libel does not stop there; if it had, it would have been otherwise. If it had simply stated that ‘Mr. Ryan has acquired the office of public critic, he writes in journals of extensive circulation, he criticises the performances of musical artists at concerts or at operas, and he is in the habit year by year of inviting the leading artists to sing gratuitously at concerts for his own benefit, and such a system is calculated to prevent the possibility of his excuse of a fair, free, and impartial judgment upon their performances, or indirectly on those of others; for from a natural sense of gratitude he will be disposed to be favourable to those who render him such gratuitous services, and there will be at least a danger of his writing favourably of those who do not do so. And granting that he does not intend to do that which is partial and corrupt, the system is bad; but it must tend to engender a partial disposition in his mind, and also to engender a suspicion in the profession, when its existence is known, that criticism is unjust, and that either the censure or the praise which is meted out is undeserved.’ If the libel had been limited to observations of this kind, upon the character of the system and its probable consequences, no one could have complained of the spirit or the tone of the article. But, unfortunately in this instance, the writer has gone much further. He has not satisfied himself with pointing out the bad consequences of the system which the plaintiff has adopted, but he has imputed to him that he does, in fact, mete out his criticism, favourable or unfavourable, according as these services are rendered to him or not; and that by this means, through the influence of his criticisms upon those artists who dread them if they do not submit to his demands, he is enabled to levy ‘black mail’ upon them, and thus to be a kind of ‘highwayman upon the Press. Such being the scope of the libel, it assumes, as I have said, a serious character. At the same time it is but fair to Mr. Wood to say that, no doubt, he was not animated by any personal spite or ill-will towards Mr. Ryan, but only by a desire to expose and denounce a system which, no doubt, deserves to be denounced; and you may make fair allowance for his motive and his desire to expose a system which he believed the plaintiff to be mainly instrumental in upholding. We have heard rumours that public critics are not always as honest as they ought to be, and, undoubtedly, such a system as the plaintiff has pursued is calculated to keep up in the profession such impression. But, when such a charge as this is made—of corrupt and dis-

honest conduct, and it is not warranted either by the law or by the facts, a jury ought to give such damages as may clear the plaintiff’s character from such a serious aspersion upon it, for which it does not appear that there is any foundation. And more especially so, since, I regret to say, it has been insisted that the charge is true. That having been stated and persisted in, you ought to give the plaintiff such damages as may set him right in the estimation of the public, and relieve him from the imputation of conduct base and dishonourable in the extreme.”

[A verdict was given for the plaintiff, damages £250.]

THE HISTORY OF THE PRESS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

BY A LATE EDITOR OF THE “AUSTRALIAN MAIL,” &c.

I WISH I could place before the readers of the NEWSPAPER PRESS a fac-simile of a most unique journal, No. 6 of which has just reached me. It is called the *Era*, and is published at the seaport town of Fremantle, in Western Australia, a colony known in former years as Swan River. This paper, consisting of twelve pages of three columns each, is printed entirely in lithography “by George Barrow, at his lithographic printing office, High-street, Fremantle,” price twopence, or “with coloured illustrations, sixpence per copy.” It has a fancy title-page with a marine view, a fair proportion of news, leading articles, reports of entertainments, a sketch called “Wanted, a Footman,” and a great many advertisements, some of them most effectively and artistically displayed. I perceive that it is proposed to issue an illustrated edition.

The *Era* is certainly one of the most curious newspapers that have issued from the curious Press of Western Australia. I have among my files some copies of an early paper, published some thirty years ago, called the *Swan River Guardian*, in which the printer seems to have been most dreadfully put to his shift for type, several varieties of which, from long primer to nonpareil, are used in the composition of a single article, the few last lines in some instances being eked out with an odd mixture of large and small capitals. I have also copies of the *Perth Gazette* and of the *Inquirer*, two papers of a later period, denoting an equal poverty of paper, being printed on thick pink and drab packing paper, and at last, pending the arrival of the expected supply, reduced to the size of two pages!

For eight-and-thirty years the public Press of this isolated Colony has had uphill work of it; and it is very far below the rank of the papers of the other Australian Colonies even now. It had its birth in manuscript *Gazettes*, which were nailed on trees for public perusal. This was in 1829–30. In the latter year a Mr. Gardner issued a written sheet, containing items of news and advertisements, purporting to be weekly, but of irregular publication, at the price of 2s. 6d. or 3s. 6d. per copy; and on his leaving the Colony in the following year, this little manuscript sheet was continued by Messrs. W. K. Shenton and Charles Macfaull. In the next year, 1832, the first printing-press arrived in Swan River, and it was at once rented by Macfaull, who brought out the *Fremantle Observer*, which fell to the ground in three months; but it is memorable as the first printed newspaper in the Colony. The press then fell into the hands of Captain Graham, a retired military officer, who started a short-lived weekly paper, called the *Western Australian*, and subsequently an equally short-lived weekly pamphlet, called the *Inquirer*, which ended his journalistic aspirations. In 1832, a Stanhope press arriving, was rented by Mr. Macfaull, who started on January 5th, 1833, the *Perth Gazette*, and *Western Australian Journal*, which, after passing through many vicissitudes, still exists as the *Independent Journal*. Its first trouble was an action for libel brought by the master of a coasting brig, for stating that his passengers had suffered from want of provisions. This was tried in September, 1835, in the Civil Court of the Colony; damages laid at £500—verdict found for £50. This was rapidly followed by another action for libel, brought by the defendant’s attorney for alleging a mismanagement of the previous case, and tried 10th of November of the same year; damages laid at £500—verdict for defendant. For a brief period the *Perth Gazette* basked in the sunshine of Government favour and was the official medium for notices, proclamations, &c., but in February, 1836, a fount of type, sent from the Caslon foundry by the present

writer, by order of the Government, arrived in the Colony, and a distinct *Government Gazette* was first started, although it was confided to Mr. Macfaull's management as Government printer. On October 6th of the same year, a scurrilous rival to the *Perth Gazette* appeared under the title of the *Swan River Guardian*, edited by Mr. William Nairne Clark, the solicitor previously mentioned. An early copy is before me—scarcely the size of four pages of the *Newspaper Press*, price ninepence, with the motto from Pope:

"What's right, what's true, what's fit, we justly call,
Let this be all my care—for this is all."

This in every way disgraceful little print left its mark in the history of the Colony, as its wanton attacks on personal character provoked a local bill for the adoption, or rather adaptation of the English laws for the control of the Press. This bill, despite some feeble opposition, passed into law on the 24th January, 1837, and is identical with the English Registration Act, except that the amount of security was reduced to £200. It is worthy of note (and explains the rough appearance of the journal), that it was printed with the identical press and from the identical types which had been used for starting the first paper in Van Diemen's Land, many years previously. The new law suspended the career of the *Swan River Guardian*—it attempted a new life on February 2nd, 1838, but issued its last number on the 21st. Mr. Clark then attempted to evade the law in the following week by bringing it out as the *Political Register*, but the new issue was pronounced subject to security, failing which it succumbed.

For a time, then, the *Perth Gazette* had an easy life of it until the 25th of August, 1840, when Mr. William Tanner brought out the first number of a very talented paper edited by a new arrival, Mr. Francis Loché, son of the well remembered auctioneer of Pall-mall, and himself a barrister-at-law, and so amiable a man, that he at once won, and in a different position has ever since retained, the affection and respect of his brother settlers. This paper was called the *Inquirer*, with the motto, "Occulta vitia inquirere." It soon attracted all the talent of the colony. Edward Wilson Lander, a cousin of Walter Savage "of that ilk," and author of "The Bushman," a novel called "Loffoden, or the Exiles of Norway," and other works, contributed a series of spirited papers under the assumed name of "Colonnicus." James Drummond, a worthy descendant of Drummond of Hawthornden, wrote some most valuable papers on the botany of the colony, which have been reprinted in London. Dr. Henry Lander wrote some thoughtful and talented articles on "The Physiology of the Natives;" and the *Perth Gazette* found its ascendancy not only threatened, but gone. After some years Mr. Loché was called to other pursuits, and the editorship fell into the hands of Mr. Richard West Nash, also a barrister-at-law, who, on leaving the colony, was succeeded by Mr. Robert Sholl, a son of the once well-known navy agent of the Adelphi. On the death of Mr. Macfaull the editorship of the *Perth Gazette* devolved upon Mr. Arthur Shenton, the son of a Winchester family. The motto of the paper was "Neither conscience nor taste will suffer me to fight one class or interest against another, or to take the narrow ground of undeviating panegyric;" but it has of late years been eliminated.

Nearly twenty years went by and the *Perth Gazette* and the *Inquirer* still covered the ground when Mr. Horace Samson and Mr. George Leake started the *Commercial News* at Fremantle, and shortly afterwards Mr. E. W. Lander, after a residence of fifteen years in England, returned to the colony and started the *Western Australian Times*; but the former paper soon became incorporated with the *Inquirer*, and the latter with the *Perth Gazette*, and there was no new journalistic enterprise till the recent starting of the *Fremantle Herald*, and of the *Era*, the remarkable paper with the description of which I commenced this article.

Before concluding it I ought to mention a manuscript paper started some hundreds of miles from the seat of Government in January, 1844, and very smartly edited by Mr. Andrew Stirling, ably assisted by Dr. Allen, under the title of the *Leichenhault Sunbeam*, but which shared the fate of all manuscript newspapers—a short existence.

I hope I have not wearied my readers; but in these few columns I believe I have given a complete history of journalism in Western Australia. If space could be spared in the *Newspaper Press* for a similar account from each country, we might hope at last to construct a full and substantial record of the fourth estate.

THE LIBEL BILL OF SESSION 1869.

MR. BAINES' new Libel Bill, now under discussion in the House of Commons, is substantially the same as that of Sir Colman O'Loughlen, described at page 65 of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* for March, 1867. The following are its provisions:—

1st. That proprietors of newspapers shall not be subject to action for libel in respect of a faithful report of proceedings at a public meeting, unless he shall refuse to publish a fair reply to the libel complained of. The speaker of such libel shall be liable to action if he refuse to publish an apology in the same newspaper, or in one circulating in the same district. No existing privileges are to be affected by the Bill.

2nd. That fair and true reports of debates in Parliament shall not be liable to action.

3rd. That the defendant in actions for libel may pay money into court in discharge of the action, and that when damages under five pounds are given, the plaintiff shall get no more costs than damages.

4th. That a private person wishing to send up an indictment for libel, must enter into recognizances to prosecute and pay costs. The defendant may be a witness in a libel case, as also the defendant's wife. The Act is not to extend to Scotland.

THE PRESS ASSOCIATION (LIMITED).

THE first ordinary general meeting of the members of the Press Association (Limited) was held on Wednesday, March 3rd, at the Salisbury Hotel, Salisbury-square, Fleet-street, Mr. Jaffray, of the *Birmingham Post*, in the chair. The following newspaper proprietors were present:—Mr. Harper (*Huddersfield Chronicle*), Mr. Saunders (*Eastern Morning News*), Mr. Clifford (*Sheffield Daily Telegraph*), Mr. Finlay (*Belfast Northern Whig*), Mr. Naylor (*Cambridge Chronicle*), Mr. Glover (*Leamington Spa Courier*), Mr. Spark (*Leeds Evening Express*), Mr. Bacon (*Norwich Mercury*), Dr. Cameron (*North British Daily Mail*), Mr. Clarke (*Peterborough Advertiser*), Mr. Redpath (*Newcastle Daily Journal*), Mr. Foster (*Yorkshire Gazette*), Sir J. Gray, M.P. (*Dublin Freeman's Journal*), Mr. Russel (*Scotsman*), Mr. Tillotson (*Bolton Evening News*), Mr. Douglas (*North Wales Chronicle*), Mr. Paradise (*Stamford Mercury*), Mr. Maitland (*Liverpool Mercury*), Mr. E. Gray (*Dublin Freeman's Journal*), Dr. Maunsell (*Dublin Evening Mail*), Mr. Ritchie (*Leeds Mercury*), Mr. F. W. Gray (*Dublin Freeman's Journal*), Mr. Leader (*Sheffield Independent*).

A report was read and unanimously adopted, as was also an abstract of the accounts. The former showed that the position of the Association is very satisfactory.

The committee of management and the board were then elected, consisting of the following gentlemen:—Mr. Taylor (*Manchester Guardian*), Sir J. Gray, M.P. (*Dublin Freeman's Journal*), Mr. Jaffray (*Birmingham Daily Post*), Mr. Saunders (*Eastern Morning News*), Mr. Clifford (*Sheffield Daily Telegraph*), Dr. Cameron (*North British Daily Mail*), Mr. Ireland (*Manchester Examiner*), Mr. Harper (*Huddersfield Chronicle*), Mr. Finlay (*Belfast Northern Whig*), Mr. Glover (*Leamington Spa Courier*).

A CURIOUS PRESS TRIAL.

A GROTESQUE trial, now going on, is reported in the American newspapers. The action is brought by Mr. Charles Reade, the novelist, against the *New York Round Table* for having called his book, "Griffith Gaunt," many hard names. In the estimation of the *New York Round Table* the book is not only "essentially bad and indecent," it is "one of the worst novels that has appeared during this generation." Mr. Reade claims damages to the amount of 25,000 dols. Mr. Vandenhoff, the famous elocutionist, was called to the witness-box by Mr. Charles Reade, and desired to read the whole of the novel through to the Court. The following are the details of the progress of this "reading":—"The jury looked bored and pleased by turns; though they often frowned and drowsed, he quite as often brought a smile to their lips. But one old 'gentleman of the jury' looked out of an eye peculiarly hollow at what he evidently considered the hollowness of the whole proceedings, and seemed not half so well pleased as if

he had paid for an orchestra chair to the entertainment. When Mr. Vandenhoff said, 'Mr. Leicester favoured her with a knowing wink,' he looked at the jury and the court, and the jury and the court looked sorrowfully back again, but the 'wink' was with the reader. On he went, but when he read 'because you ha'n't got no stomach,' said the boy, contemptuously, a laugh went round which showed plainly enough that other people had this indispensable machinery, and that it was long after lunch time. Getting disgusted with his work, the reader began to utter the words very rapidly, and the chop-chop-chop of the exercise showed that Mr. Vandenhoff can read badly if he tries. At twenty-five minutes to two o'clock he had read eight chapters, and rested for a short time, but, after resuming, even the pathetic capitals 'I love Kate' made no impression upon the jury, nor could they be roused when he read, in a dramatic manner, how 'their lips met, in spite of all the difficulties, and grew together in a long and tender embrace,' and so at twenty minutes past two, having got through with ten out of the thirty-seven chapters, Mr. Vandenhoff asked that as it was the longest reading he ever had occasion to make, the rest of his task might be deferred until another day." On the 4th ult., Judge Clark, before whom the case was tried, summed up to the jury at great length, and concluded with these words: "The next inquiry is as to the damages. You have a right to consider whatever injury in mind the plaintiff has sustained by these charges, and even you may go further; you may consider what he is entitled to as compensation for his wounded character, if it has been wounded. Or you have the right to consider what hereafter he may suffer; for I hold that prospective damages are allowed in this action. That has been allowed in several instances." The jury found for the plaintiff, and assessed the damages at six cents.

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

VII.—THE "ESSEX STANDARD."

THE *Essex Standard*, with the second title of "General Advertiser for the Eastern Counties," was established at Chelmsford on the 7th of January, 1831. It was started by a number of Conservative gentlemen, in consequence of there being then no Conservative paper in the county, while the Whig party had four political organs. The sum necessary for the first expenses was raised by shares, and the editorship and general management of the paper were confided to Mr. J. H. Hanshall, a gentleman of considerable talent. In the September following it was considered desirable to remove the publication of the *Essex Standard* to Colchester, where it was placed under the direction of, and printed by Messrs. Swinborne, Walter, and Taylor, the principal booksellers and printers of that town; in their hands it continued until Midsummer of the year 1834, when, Mr. Swinborne having retired from business, Messrs. Walter and Taylor declined the publishing of the paper, and it was again removed to Chelmsford, where it was printed by Mr. T. D. Dutton, formerly of Bury St. Edmunds, under the management of Mr. H. T. Biddell, a gentleman of considerable skill in reporting, who also undertook the editorship. During all the period since its foundation the paper had been a losing concern, and had made little progress in circulation; and, in Michaelmas, 1835, a Stamp Office prosecution being threatened on account of the names of the proprietors not having been registered since its removal, it was considered desirable to dispose of the *Standard*, and pay off the debt contracted by its maintenance. It was purchased by Mr. John Taylor, junior, who, with Messrs. Swinborne and Walter, had formerly published it, and it was by him finally located at Colchester at the end of October, 1835. It started as a large quarto, but was altered to folio in the September of its first year. At Chelmsford it was published on the market day, Friday, with a second edition on Saturday for Colchester market; but on its removal to the latter town, the publishing day was for some time confined to Saturday. It then resumed the two editions—one for Fridays, Chelmsford market, and one for the Saturday market at Colchester. Subsequently, however, the days of publication were altered to Wednesday morning and Friday evenings, and remain so to the present day. Meanwhile, under the able and conscientious management of Mr. Taylor, the influence of the *Essex Standard* continued to advance,

and when Mr. Taylor resigned the proprietorship at the close of the year 1867, it was enjoying the confidence of the whole Conservative party in the county, as well as the majority of the moderate Liberals, who regarded it as an impartial and faithful delineator of all the public gatherings of the district, whether political or otherwise. On the resignation of Mr. Taylor (whose death took place somewhat suddenly in the following February), the editorship was entrusted to Mr. Thomas Ralling, a gentleman whose connexion with the *Essex Standard* as reporter and sub-editor extended over nearly thirty years; and under his guidance the paper has maintained its high character. And although by his lamented death a short time since (January 28, 1869) the last of those who had assisted in raising the character of the journal to its present prosperity has passed away, the principles of the paper are still maintained, and the confidence of the public is in no way diminished.

EAST-ANGLIA.

Review.

The Newspaper Press Directory for 1869.—London: Mitchell & Co.

How trite and how hackneyed are the words, "What great results from little causes spring!" We know that the acorn and the oak will follow as the illustration. Substitute "small beginnings" for "little causes," and the "Post Office London Directory" will be pulled in to complete the paragraph. So we are loth to speak in the same style of Mitchell's "Newspaper Press Directory." Yet, comparing the first issue, which was a sort of "handy book," with the recent annual editions, we are led to reflections on the growth which it indicates of the newspaper strength of the country. In the first annual issue in 1845 (now before us), the number of papers mentioned was 553 (and we have no reason to believe that the list was incomplete); in the Directory for 1869 it is 1,372, besides a host of periodicals amounting to 655, many of which rank as, and might legitimately be added to the list of, newspapers.

To speak of the book itself is superfluous in a journal like ours; all our readers know it—all our readers use it—all our readers find it indispensable, and the bulk of advertisers are well aware that they cannot do without it—that is, if they are of that class which understands the science of advertising, and is not disposed to throw money away upon worthless publications. We have handed the volume for 1869 over to our microscopic critic, Mr. Carp, who will, no doubt, found some interesting statistical calculations on it, for the entertainment of our readers in a future number of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*—but we defy him, with his strongest "glasses," to find any fault in it.

With an honest desire to see so excellent a publication made still more useful, we would venture to throw out a suggestion that future editions might contain a brief outline of the regulations necessary to be observed for the registration of newspapers at Somerset House and at the Post Office. A few lines would suffice, but they would save us a world of correspondence in answer to inquiries, and although the suggestion might therefore be suspected of selfish motives, it would clearly also conduce to the benefit of the public, and the saving of some outlay by small, ambitious printers, and the strangling in their birth of little, rickety "locals," that cannot pass the ordeal, and only live long enough to bring discredit upon the word "newspaper."

MR. BAINES' LIBEL BILL.

(From the *Standard*.)

AFTER all the laudations which politicians are wont to bestow upon the Press of this country, it is somewhat surprising that a very moderate measure of reform, in which the Press is most directly interested, should be received with so much faint praise and open hostility as to necessitate its continual appearance as a parliamentary annual. Yet this is exactly what has happened to the Bill to amend the Law of Libel, which the present Judge Advocate repeatedly introduced, and which the House, in successive sessions, has emphatically approved. * * * A free Press has educated a free people in its own theory that publicity is good for all things that concern the body politic, both in its

minor and major affairs. Every year increases the number of those who have a real and personal concern in knowing what is done by vestries, local boards, and general meetings of trading companies. The revelations of the panic and the collapse show that the world would, probably, have been none the worse, if the light had been let into the prison-house a little earlier than it was. But whatever benefit the Press confers by its reports it confers at its own peril. . . . The marvel is that the bitterest opponents of the measure should be found among those who are always the loudest in their protestations of attachment to a free Press, and who are by no means indisposed to make the utmost use of the opportunities of speaking to a large audience which the Press gives them. Mr. Thomas Chambers indeed, in a very long, very discursive, and exceedingly inconclusive speech, traced the history of Press restriction in a way which leaves us somewhat in doubt whether the honourable and learned gentleman does not consider an actual or virtual censorship rather a good thing. We should incline to think he did but for occasional passages in which he seemed to approve the ruling in *Wason v. Walter*. But then, again, he leaves us in doubt by his remarks about proceedings at public meetings, of the great majority of which he thinks "it is a great waste of ink and paper ever to publish them at all." Possibly; but we regretfully confess that we have been compelled to read not a few debates, and a great many speeches in Parliament, of which the same thing might be said. We need not follow Mr. Dowse in his sarcastic comments upon the law which the learned Common Serjeant laid down; nor need we here discuss the reasonableness of the distinction which the law of England makes between spoken and written defamation; though it is worthy of remark, as Mr. Watkin Williams pointed out, that no such distinction is recognised in Scotland or in France. But we must protest against the plea for delay which Mr. Ayrton put in. According to the right voluble member for the Tower Hamlets all will be right if we will but wait till the Government has brought in a bill, which it has in preparation, which is to make the law of libel the very perfection of human reason. But we remember the sneering tone in which Mr. Ayrton, when in opposition, spoke of the Press, and must decline to believe in his lately kindled zeal for its welfare. And we are inclined to think that the Government will find it has quite work enough on its hands for this session at least.

(From the *Morning Advertiser*.)

It is too late now for newspaper proprietors to refuse to report meetings because an unjust law saddles them with responsibility for any libellous matter their reports may contain. It was urged, in opposition to Mr. Baines's Bill, that editorial discretion should be exercised upon the report while it is yet in proof; but how, let us ask, is this to be done? What is to guide an editor in the task of adopting or rejecting statements of whose accuracy it is impossible he should have the means of judging? If he were to lay down the rule of rejecting everything that is libellous, it would often happen that the most useful part of his "occupation" would be gone. A charge, for example, of misdealing with the funds of a company might form the very gist of a public meeting, and to reject it from the report of the proceedings would be to stultify and render nugatory the whole affair.

(From the *Spectator*.)

The Bill which Mr. Baines described, and which the House of Commons, under the pressure of county papers, will probably pass, may be shortly described as a Bill for enabling a journalist to neglect his duty whenever such neglect will seriously injure any fellow-citizen. . . . Any man owning or conducting any journal may do another person irreparable injury without being in any way responsible to him or to the law. He may, in fact, by virtue of statutory privilege, repeat to, say, sixty thousand persons, a libel he has heard with absolute impunity. Talk of the privileges of the peerage, of members' exemption from the eighth commandment, of the separate jurisdiction secured on the continent to soldiers, what are they all put together to a privilege like this? John Smith says that Thomas Brown is a thief, and if the journalist repeats that statement to a friend he is liable to an action for slander, and if he puts it in a letter, to a more serious process; but if he repeats it to sixty thousand people, then he is not so liable. We will just put a case of a kind which occurs

every day, and which will perhaps bring the meaning of this privilege home to some worthy members, who else would vote for this Bill just because they think "the newspapers will like it." There is a row in a country town about some rate which the upper class want to keep up and the householders to keep down. John Robinson, working tailor and patriot, denounces the said upper class, and particularly the local banker, observing that he need not be so arrogant, for everybody knows that his bank is rotten, and would have suspended payment last Saturday if Overends had not helped them. The writer heard that very statement made about one of the most solvent bankers in England during a stormy meeting about a parish church-rate. Everybody laughed, but suppose that statement sent abroad in print to the whole county, what is the banker to do after this Act is passed? He is to write to the editor to say, "I am perfectly solvent," that is to say, he is invested with the power of undergoing an additional penalty as compensation for having been slandered! "Oh!" replies Mr. Baines, "he can prosecute John Robinson, for the Bill makes John a libeller." That is to say, he can ask damages from a poor devil who cannot even pay costs, and who made his preposterous statement in the heat of declamation and controversy, and who may believe it besides, and may not ask any redress from the editor, whose act gives the libel all its importance, who deliberately stereotypes to all time a statement which else would have been forgotten as soon as made, and who knows that it may cause grievous personal and public injury. Nor is that all. The journalist is actually invested by this Act with a new kind of power. He may actually repeat the libel in his leader as a quotation, and so lend it the whole weight of his own character and that of his journal, and yet be within the law.

We contend that the journalist who repeats a libel, unless uttered in Parliament, is bound to accept its consequences, and that the excuse of hurry or inadvertence is no more an excuse for him than it is for a cabman who drives over an old woman because he wants to catch a train. He must use care and diligence like everybody else, and the way to make him do it is to punish him for the consequences of neglect. At present, such instances are wonderfully rare, just because the law creates in reporters and journalists an instinctive carefulness which protects them and the public, but which would, if the law were relaxed, be exchanged for indolence and apathy, and the natural disposition which no journalists ever can quite subdue, to let the proprietor force the sale of his paper by any means for which the journalist himself is not personally responsible.

(From the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*.)

With a casuistry worthy of an order he detests, Mr. Newdegate asks what is a fair report, and having asked, thus answers the question—"No report that is not full can be fair." This reply is simply an enormous assumption. If for "fair" Mr. Newdegate substituted "complete," perhaps his dictum might be accepted, not otherwise. A report may be very far from complete, and yet quite fair. For example, it would be perfectly just to describe the drift of Mr. Newdegate's speech as decidedly hostile to Mr. Baines's Bill. Not even the member for Warwickshire could deny the "fairness" of such a report, though nobody would say the report was full. Mr. Newdegate labours under some peculiar hallucination as to what a report really is, and to make the matter plain proceeds to define what it is not. A fair report, he tells us, is not a summary. Why? Because "a summary is a production of the intellect." But what, we should like to ask, is a report the production of? Is it no intellectual effort? If Mr. Newdegate had consulted any lexicon at command he would have discovered that a summary is the pith or substance of the thing summarised.

THE PROSECUTION OF THE "NATIONAL REFORMER."

(From the *Blue Budget*.)

THE world must judge what value it will set upon Lord Enfield in the new position he has assumed of apologist for Mr. Bradlaugh. The noble lord presented a petition to the House of Commons the other day, on behalf of Mr. Bradlaugh, calling attention to the fact that he has recently been heavily fined for not having registered the proprietorship of his so-called newspaper, the *National Re-*

former. Why the laws should be altered because they press heavily on Mr. Bradlaugh, we are at a loss to see, particularly when all the literary world, excepting the proprietor of the *National Reformer*, and we hesitate to call him a man of letters, experiences no inconvenience from the law. Let the public bear in mind that, whatever nonsense Lord Enfield may talk about the operation of the existing laws being to the suppression of Mr. Bradlaugh's organ, the only onus inflicted is the necessity to get two sureties in four hundred pounds each, to answer libellous charges, a circumstance that occasions difficulty to no respectable newspaper proprietor.

Correspondence.

THE EARLY DAYS OF THE MANCHESTER PRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—Under the above heading in your last paper, "Captain Cuttle" gave a very imperfect account of the early Manchester newspapers. It is just like him—ever since I first knew him he was always putting his hook into something or other. He altogether forgets the *British Volunteer*, started June 30th, 1804, which was edited by John Vint, formerly on the *London Courier* and *Morning Post*, and editor of *Harrop's Manchester Mercury*, and which was the first paper to run an express as far as Derby to meet the mail; the *Mercantile Gazette*, the first provincial daily paper, started by Dr. Solomon (the proprietor of a quack medicine called "The Balm of Gilead," of whose blessed virtues I can speak in my attacks of rheumatics), August 6th, 1811; the *Northern Express*, started by Henry Burgess, December 1st, 1821; and others besides.

There had been a *Manchester Gazette* before Cowdroy's. It was the first Manchester paper, and was started by a Mr. Whitworth in 1780, but it was afterwards called the *Manchester Magazine*.

Yours respectfully, MARTHA MACSTINGER.

THE COMMON SERGEANT ON NEWSPAPERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—In the course of the debate on the Libel Bill, Mr. Dowse corrected Mr. Thomas Chambers in his law; allow me to dispute his facts. The learned Sergeant said, "From the reign of Henry VIII. to the reign of William III. there was a censorship of the Press in order to protect Government and private characters from attacks in the newspapers." I believe it is pretty well known that we had no newspapers in the reign of Henry VIII., nor during the three subsequent reigns, the first publication at all worthy of being considered as a newspaper appearing in the time of James I.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

BUTTER'S GHOST.

THE "SPHINX," a satirical journal, published at Manchester, has ceased to exist.

THE "BURY AND SUFFOLK STANDARD," a new Conservative paper, will make its first appearance on the 9th instant, under the editorial management of Mr. J. Merrell.

A NEW monthly paper, entitled the *Church Chronicle*, to serve the purpose of a record of Church life and Church work, will, we understand, make its appearance on the 1st of May, under the editorship of Mr. Charles Mackeson, who will also contribute to its pages a series of papers on London and suburban churches.

POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS.—Mr. Stapleton asked the Postmaster General, on the 12th ult., in the House of Commons, whether he would be prepared, at the commencement of the financial year, to reduce the postage on newspapers, so as materially to facilitate their circulation in the rural districts. The Marquis of Hartington said he had not the power, even with the consent of the Treasury, to authorise the transmission of anything by post for less than one penny. The subject had, however, been under consideration, and, when the hon. member for Liverpool should bring on his motion next week, he (Lord Hartington) should be prepared to state whether the Government would bring in a bill to transmit newspapers and, perhaps, other printed matter, for a less sum than one penny.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, March 26.

When M. Pinard relinquished, a few months ago, not only the seals of office, but also the comfortable salary, emoluments, and patronage of Minister of the Interior, and was succeeded by M. Forcade de la Roquette, it was generally hoped and expected that the foreign journals would be treated on their arrival in France with more leniency and consideration than they had previously experienced. But to the disappointment of the public, the new Minister is now found to possess even still more confined ideas than his predecessor in office, and cannot understand what a degree of ridicule and reproach he casts upon France by pretending to believe it to be dangerous for the State to allow the liberal sentiments enunciated in the English and German newspapers to be read in this country. In former times, when the French Press was obliged to wear the strait-waistcoat so liberally supplied by the Government of the day, and was so effectively gagged as to be unable to utter even a whisper, it was but natural that a jealous watch should be kept on the contents of foreign journals, and that they should be prevented from infecting the French mind with liberal ideas; but that this same antiquated system should now be carried on with equal vigilance and severity, when, notwithstanding all the rigorous penalties imposed by the new Press law, much sharper and more hostile things are said and printed in this country than are to be found in any foreign newspaper, is an anomaly not to be explained on any reasonable grounds.

M. Henri de Rochefort has been invited by the electors of one of the metropolitan districts to allow himself to be put in nomination as their candidate for the Legislative Assembly at the approaching general elections, and has intimated his acquiescence. As so many sentences are still hanging over him—having been so often condemned in *contumaciam*—he will be unable to canvass the constituency in person; but should he be elected, he cannot be prevented from taking his seat, as the law protects all members of the Legislative Assembly from arrest and imprisonment.

Some of the most fearless journals of this city have now a standing heading, "Continuation of the Martyrology of the Press," in which from time to time they dish up the sufferings of their contemporaries.

The Court of Appeal of this city has just given judgment in the following case: M. Pelissier de la Moulière, a literary gentleman, not long ago sent in an article for the "miscellaneous facts" (*faits divers*) of the *Avenir National*, signed with his name, for which M. Peyrat, the manager of that paper, was prosecuted as the author, and M. Pelissier as the accomplice—though, in fact, it was just the reverse—on the charge of disseminating false intelligence. Contrary to the requisition made by the Imperial Advocate, Fourchy, as public prosecutor, the court admitted that the article was written *de bonne foi*, and that it was no crime, but simply a contravention, and M. Peyrat got off with a fine of 50f. But the Court of Appeal thought proper to reverse the sentence, on the ground that publishing false intelligence, even if done in good faith, was undoubtedly a crime, and that the accomplice ought to suffer as well as the principal. But they were lenient enough to confirm the amount of M. Peyrat's fine, and M. Pelissier was mulcted in a similar sum of 50f.

On the 13th inst., the sentence of the court was pronounced in the affair of *La Cloche*. M. Ulbach, the writer of the incriminating article, was found guilty of offending the Emperor, and fined 500f.; M. le Chevalier, as editor, was fined 100f.; and the printer, 25f. The defence was conducted by M. Emanuel Arago. The leniency of the sentence elicited cheers from the audience. Not long ago, M. Ulbach was fined 1,000f. for a breach of the Press law.

The appeal made by the *Diabla-à-quatre*, condemned to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 3,000f., for offending the person of the Emperor, was to have come on for hearing last week, but has been postponed till after the Easter holidays.

The *Presse libre*, misnomer it is, has got into trouble, and been prosecuted on the stereotype charge of inciting to hatred and contempt of the Government, and of course found guilty, the fines amounting to 900f.—that is to say, M. Guillemot, the author

of the incriminating article has to pay 500*fr.*, M. Malespine the editor 300*fr.*, and the printer Dubuisson 100*fr.*

The lawyers' journal, *Le Palais*, states that the legal proceedings commenced against the *Revue Contemporaine* for an article written by M. de Calonne on the necessity of discussing the constitution, has been withdrawn.

In the provinces, the Courts of Justice have also quite enough business on their hands and are active in their exertions to put down the Press. The Tribunal of Correctional Police at Toulouse has given judgment in the prosecution of the *Emancipation*, on the double charge of exciting to hatred and contempt of the Government, and inciting the citizens to hatred of each other. The sentence of the Lower Court, where judgment went by default, was fully confirmed, and M. Louis Dagé, the author of the incriminating article, has to remain in prison for the full period of three months and pay a fine of 1,000*fr.*, the editor 500*fr.*, and the printer also 500*fr.*

Some weeks ago, the *Auvergne* was prosecuted for an article in its issue of the 6th of January last, and, *mirabile dictu*, acquitted. But, of course, the vindictiveness of the Government would not allow the matter to rest and the public prosecutor was instructed to appeal to the Superior Court at Riom, which, as a matter of course, reversed the sentence of the Lower Tribunal at Clermont-Ferrand, convicting the accused of wilful excitement to hatred and contempt of the Government, and sentencing them to various punishments; M. Meneboode, the responsible editor, as the presumed principal by the publication of the incriminating article, a fine of 1,000*fr.*; M. Charles Dupuy, culpable as accomplice for having put his name to the article and given it to the editor for publication, a fine of 2,000*fr.*; and Noalhat the printer, for having given the use of his press with full knowledge of the contents of the article, 5,000*fr.* fine,—all three being jointly condemned to the payment of costs.

The agricultural and viticultural interests of Burgundy have hitherto never enjoyed a special organ of their own; but this want has been now supplied by the publication of a bi-monthly journal, called the *Cultivateur Bourguignon*, which is edited by M. Dupont Delporte, inspector of the domain of Montpierreux, near Chablis, member of the council general of the department, and formerly member of the chamber of deputies.

AVANT-COURIER.

A new French newspaper promises as a prize among its young lady subscribers a marriage portion; and as a prize to all elderly male subscribers is promised a charming wife, who shall excel in warming the bed—with a warming pan.

The *North German Correspondent* says, in Paris there is a great Austrian Press office under the direction of Prince Metternich, the Austrian Ambassador, which furnishes the Austrian journals in that city with communications.

A suit has just been brought at the Civil Tribunal of the Seine, by M. Cerfber de Mendelsheim, a writer on the Press, against M. Wittersheim, publisher of the *Journal Officiel*, to recover 3,000*fr.* damages for the inconvenience to which he had been subjected by the late delivery of the Government organ, to which he had subscribed, and the bad paper on which it was printed and which rendered it almost illegible. The defendant showed that the delay had been inevitable in consequence of the difficulties of a new organization; the paper he admitted had at first been indifferent, but he had since changed his supplier, and both causes of complaint were now remedied. The Court decided that the plaintiff had no claim for damages, and merely condemned Wittersheim to the payment of costs.

In an article entitled "The New Generation," the *Etendard* examines the situation of the Press of to-day, and especially compares the position of independent with semi-official journalists. It would appear that the latter have nothing to be proud of as regards the manner in which they are treated by the powers that be. According to the above named print, which is in a good position to know the exactitude of its information, "they are asked for neither counsel, assistance, nor adhesion; and they are forbidden all criticism or observation. What is expected from them is a servile and monotonous approbation." The paper which complains thus bitterly asks what is it that is wanting in the governmental Press to endue it with life and ardour, and replies to its own question—"Perhaps the first thing necessary is that the

Government should bestow the same consideration on the semi-officials as it bestows on their adversaries. Next, independence and frankness—the valiant frankness of a devotedness which, knowing all, dare say all, and which, ready for defence, would not hesitate to forewarn." If what the *Etendard* says is exact, we can understand that "young and energetic intellects" should "shrink from the ungrateful task" of defending the Government, "while they see its sworn champions reduced to something worse than a disavowal, viz., a despicable indifference."—*Journal des Débats*.

Some recent blunders in the *Journal Officiel* have recorded the following reminiscences. The *Moniteur* in Louis Philippe's days, having to record the meeting of a Council of Ministers, announced that "The *monsters* assembled to-day under the King's presidency." M. Billault, in later times, was made to address the Senate as "Mesdemoiselles," and the Archbishop of Paris was represented to have "charge d'anes" (donkeys), instead of "charge d'âmes" (souls).

The Press intends to come out very strong at the forthcoming general election. Not less than 21 journalists have announced their intention of "soliciting the suffrages of their countrymen." Prevost Paradol (*Débats*) is put up for the Bouches-du-Rhône, Henri Rochefort (*Lanterne*) for Paris, Lavertujon (*Gironde*) for Bordeaux, Leon Say (*Débats*) for Versailles, Guérault (*Opinion Nationale*) and Jules Ferry (*Temps*) for Paris, Frederick Morin for Lyons, Viscount Keratry (*Revue Moderne*) for Finistère, Clement Duvernois (*Peuple*) for the Upper Alps, Draole (*Public*) for the Gironde, Cassagnac (*Pays*) for the Gers, Cacheval-Clarigny (*Presse*) for the Pas de Calais, and Pelletan (*Tribune*) for Paris. The other names are utterly unknown to fame. I rather think our confrères are drugging the market.

A new political and literary paper has lately appeared in Paris, under the title of the *Paris*.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, March 27.

On the 6th inst., the day before the close of the session of the Prussian Parliament, a petition was presented to the House of Representatives by J. Fränkel, printer and editor of a paper at Sorau, complaining of the conduct of the local police authorities in that town in not restoring to him his concession to carry on his business in spite of the amnesty that had been since granted for all contraventions of the Press law. The petitioner prays the House to induce the Government to grant him the concession as printer and lithographer, and stigmatise the conduct of the police in sealing up his printing-office, as exceeding the bounds of their jurisdiction. The committee appointed to investigate the subject recommended the House to proceed to the order of the day, as they did not consider the charge of exceeding their duty preferred against the police as justified by the facts. They maintained that the petitioner had no right to claim participation in the amnesty, and his subsequent conduct was not of a nature to induce the House to recommend him as a special object for the royal clemency. Herr Duncker and Herr Lasker, moved that the petition be recommended to the consideration of the Government, considering that the minister had not done his duty by declining to recommend the petitioner to the mercy of the Crown. In a case of general amnesty, it was simply to be proved whether the petitioner was included in it, without reference to his personal relations. Fränkel was the more deserving of being included in the amnesty, as he had himself taken his share in the war of 1866, that brought on the events on account of which the amnesty was granted. The Government commissioner, Count Eulenburg denied that the amnesty applied to all persons without a previous examination into their several relations. The petitioner had been guilty of two fresh contraventions since his condemnation, and it could not be said he had acted in good faith. His second offence was an insult to the judges, and such a person was not one qualified for a recommendation to mercy. On the division, the motion of the committee to proceed with the order of the day was lost by 120 votes to 116, and that of Duncker and Lasker carried by 130 to 116 votes.

Dr. Otto Walster, the editor of the Guelphic organ *Bulletin international de Dresde* has got into trouble, as proceedings have been commenced against him on the serious charge of high

treason against the North German Confederation, the king of Prussia having refused to prosecute him for offence of Majesty towards himself only. The case will be tried before the Saxon Jury Court at Dresden.

The *Ungarische Monatsschrift*, published at Berlin, is about to alter its name, and from the 1st of April will appear weekly under the title of *Bethlen's diplomatische Wochenschrift*. This change is not altogether without importance, as it will much facilitate the circulation of the periodical, which endeavours to prove with as much zeal as ingenuity, that the interests of Hungary go hand in hand with the German policy of Prussia, and that Hungarian policy is diametrically opposed to the German policy of Austria.

On the 1st of April, a new Catholic organ will appear at Breslau. This is not the first time that such an undertaking has been attempted there, but they have all failed for want of support.

A new monthly periodical for agriculture has appeared at Berlin under the title of *Landwirthschaft und Industrie*. It is published by W. Tauchert, and promises to be a great success. The first number contains a well-written article by Professor Hellriegel on the nourishment of plants, and a report of the proceedings of the Congress of Agriculturists lately held at Berlin.

The *Kieler Correspondenzblatt* is the name of a new daily paper advertised to appear at Kiel on the 1st of April, and be published by C. F. Mohr. The programme announces that its tendency is to accept the *status quo* in the Duchies and support Prussia in her efforts to promote the welfare and material interests of Schleswig and Holstein. It will be of full folio size. Who the editor is has not transpired. Under the Danish rule a bi-weekly of the same name was published at Kiel, and was not popular, as it supported the Danish interests; but it continued to linger on till the final expulsion of the Danes, and was then discontinued.

Herr Paul Lindau, the chief editor of the *Elberfelder Zeitung*, has written a drama called "Marion," which has lately been performed at the theatre at Düsseldorf and proved a great success.

The printer of the *Bürgerzeitung* of Minden has been condemned by the provincial court of Westphalia to pay a fine of 15 dollars for a libel on the Bürgermeister of Lemgo, and as this is his third offence, his concession is withdrawn and the paper discontinued.

Dr. Hilgendorf and Dr. Paulicki, two medical men of this city, are making preparations to publish a scientific periodical on comparative pathology. For a long time past these two anatomists have been dissecting all the animals that died at the Zoological Garden here, and the new publication will contain from time to time some of the more striking results of their experiences.

In a speech made by Herr Frank at the last meeting of the Historical Society at Leipzig, he gave the following particulars of the printing trade of that city. In the year 1709 only 355 works were published there, whilst in 1859 the number had increased to 1582, and at Berlin 1299. In periodical literature Leipzig can only boast of 178, whilst at Berlin 194 are published. In 1867 the quantity of printed matter issued at Leipzig weighed 130,000 centners. The *Gartenlaube* alone, with its circulation of 280,000 copies, uses up 4,000 bales of paper annually. The 47 printing establishments at Leipzig, which are continually extending the sphere of their operations and obtain considerable printing orders from England and Russia, work with 98 hand presses, 214 simple machine presses, and 4 large double ditto. They give regular employment to 1,000 workmen, 300 apprentices, and 450 women.

Herr Otto de Grahl, formerly editor of the *Beobachter an der Elbe*, a paper published in this city, has been decorated by the Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha with his House order of Ernestine.

S.

We learn from the *North German Gazette* that a new French journal, *La Fraternité*, has lately been started in Mannheim. As its express object is to bring about a cosmopolitan revolution, we think its founders were wise in choosing the French language for their purpose, since the indignation excited by certain articles of the *Beobachter*, on which we lately commented, proves that such views, when expressed in plain German, are not likely to find many adherents, even among the anti-Prussian parties in the Southern States.—*North German Correspondent*.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, March 27.

After innumerable delays, false starts, postponements, and dis-appointments, the Liberal Prime Minister, Count von Beust, has effectively overcome all the opposition and intrigues of redtapeism and the judicial bureaucracy, and enjoys the triumph of seeing trial by jury an accomplished fact in Austria. After passing both Houses of Parliament, the Bill was signed by the Emperor on the 9th inst. at Agram, whilst making a tour in the southern provinces of his dominions, and is countersigned by Count von Taaffe, the Minister for Justice. The official *Wiener Zeitung* of the 19th inst. publishes at full length the text of the law, which *ipso facto* came into operation on that day, as well as the supplementary law of the same date, concerning the composition of the jury and the functions of the jurymen. Both are very long documents, the first, which contains 69 sections, taking up ten columns of the gazette, and the second with 16 paragraphs, filling three columns. But as the subject is one of such a novel nature—scarcely known in these parts even by name, and much less generally understood—it was requisite to enter into the very minutest details and make express legislative enactments for what in other constitutional countries would be deemed superfluous and considered as a matter of course. From a careful perusal of the law it will, however, be found to differ in some material points from the British procedure, on which it is ostensibly founded. The first paragraph enacts that "on and after the day on which this law is promulgated all charges of crime or misdemeanor resulting from the contents of any printed matter shall be tried and decided by jury courts (*Geschworenengerichte*)." Legal proceedings may be instituted either by the Procurator Fiscal, or at the suit of private individuals. Complaint must in the first instance be made to the *Pressgericht*, or Press Court, accompanied by all the requisite documents to substantiate the charge, which is bound within three days to decide if the complaint is admissible or frivolous; and if the former, then it goes on for trial before the Jury Court, which is composed of a president and two other judges appointed by the Government, and a jury consisting of twelve jurymen selected by lot from a body of thirty-six jurors at the head of the list of those who are liable to serve at each assizes, which, as a general rule, must be held every three months. Both the prosecutor and the defendant have the right to challenge the jury, and object to any names they have reason to believe may be hostile or not fairly impartial. Jurymen also have the right to decline serving on juries where their judgments are already biased in favour of or against one of the parties, either by the ties of relationship, private knowledge of the particulars of the case, or pecuniary interests at stake, as also if they know they are to be examined as witnesses in the case. Jurymen not showing cause for sufficient reason of exemption, and not attending when called on to serve, or leaving the court before the case is decided, are liable to a fine of 50 florins for every such transgression. The form of the oath they have to take, and which is set forth in the text of the law, contains nothing objectionable to the tenets of any religion, and may be conscientiously taken without reserve by Protestants, Papists, Jews, and Turks alike. In summing up the case, the court is bound to put the question of guilt or innocence of the accused in such a manner to the jury that it can be answered by a simple "Yes" or "No." When the jurymen retire to consult on their verdict, their first business is to elect their foreman, who then conducts the proceedings. Every jurymen is bound to give his opinion in writing, and the foreman has to make up the list of votes. To answer the question in the affirmative if the defendant has been guilty of the charge brought against him; at least two-thirds of the jurors must agree to it. For a recommendation to mercy on account of extenuating circumstances, an absolute majority suffices; and if the votes are equal, the verdict is to be considered as in favour of the delinquent, and acquittal ensues as a necessary consequence. In cases of conviction, the defendant has the right of appeal to the *Oberlandesgericht*, or Supreme Court of the Empire. The verdict must be read in open court, and in an audible manner. Should the defendant think proper not to appear to answer the charges brought against him, the trial will proceed nevertheless and judgment go by default; nor can he claim a new trial unless he can prove that his absence was occasioned by illness, *force majeure*, or some other unavoidable

cause. In every town where there is a civil or criminal court of justice, a Jury Court is to be established. The municipal authorities are bound to provide lists of all persons liable to serve on juries, and the qualifications required are deemed to be—the full enjoyment of their civil rights and the attainment of thirty years of age; their having resided, at least, for the space of one full year in the town; payment of taxes to the amount of at least 20 florins annually; and proof of sufficient education and intelligence. Exempted are clergymen and schoolmasters of all religions acknowledged by the State, the civil and military servants of the Crown, and all persons employed in the post office, telegraphs, railways, and steamboats. Excluded are those bodily and mentally diseased, all deprived of their civil rights, and under sentence or otherwise undergoing punishment for a breach of the laws, uncertificated bankrupts, and those placed under guardianship for squandering away their property, gambling, or other excesses. And, finally, the following persons may decline to serve on juries—All who have passed the age of sixty years; the members of both houses of Parliament during the session; the domestic servants of the Imperial family, physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries.

Thus, whilst Prussia has been talking for a long time of trial by jury, without ever taking action on the subject, Austria has stolen a march upon her, and set her a most liberal example. Great joy prevails in the literary circles of this city, and the newspapers of all shades and political opinions express themselves in terms of gratitude and eulogy for what they acknowledge as a beneficent measure of progress, and the greatest boon that could be afforded to the Press.

The *Neue Wiener Tagblatt* has been prosecuted for inserting an advertisement stating that a young man wished to make the acquaintance of a married lady of prepossessing appearance. The defendant contended that the advertisement contained nothing of an immoral character, and was inserted in good faith, adding that many Germans of genius,—such as Humboldt, Schiller, Goethe, and Rückert, had Platonic liaisons with married women, without ever suffering in the estimation of the public. The court, however, fined the responsible editor 80 florins, "for neglecting to exercise proper control as bound to do by law."

A great sensation was created last week by the announcement that by order of the Secretary of State, the *Volksfreund* had been seized for publishing a letter from the Pope. It appears that the editor of the ultramontane *Tyroler Volksblatt*, whilst lately undergoing his sentence of imprisonment for an offence of the Press, had sent a hundred louis' d'ors as his contribution to the Peter's Pence, which the Pope acknowledged in an autograph letter, praising the editor in very energetic and flattering terms for his opposition to the new legislation on spiritual matters in Austria, and sending him his apostolic blessing. The publication of this letter was considered a contravention of paragraph 305 of the Penal Code, "approbation of illegal acts."

On the 15th inst. appeared the first number of a novel species of class literature hitherto unrepresented, viz., the spas and bathing-places of Germany. It is appropriately called *Der Sprudel, ein Allgemeines Deutsches Badejournal*, and is edited and published by Dr. Ferdinand Fleckles, consulting physician to the bathers at Carlsbad. Among other things, it contains a statistical account of the number and quality of visitors to the most frequented bathing places in Bohemia and Germany, together with original correspondence from the most important of them, a series of diatetic letters by the editor, and a piquant feuilleton by Dr. Julius Walter.

A new Guelphic organ has been started here in the shape of a weekly journal entitled *Die Glocke*.

The former Vienna journalist, Dr. Chronik, who for the last two years has been performing the functions of Preacher to the Reformed congregation of Sinai, at Chicago, has commenced in that city the publication of a monthly periodical, in the German language, called the *Zeichen der Zeit*, or Signs of the Time, devoted to religious, social, and philosophical subjects.

In consequence of a dispute between Carl von Ritter, proprietor of the *Görzer Zeitung*, and Herr H. Penn, the editor, the publication of that paper has been suspended. It is notified to the subscribers that their money will be returned, for which purpose they are invited to apply at the office, but as no promise is held out of the publication being resumed at a future period, it is but fair to infer that the undertaking is abandoned altogether. TEUTON.

BAVARIA.

The Catholic priest, Johannes Bauer, a native of Tittling, has been indicted at Passau on a charge of libel for denouncing from the pulpit as dishonourable and truckling characters the members of the local Reading Club for taking in journals offensive to himself. The reverend delinquent was found guilty by the provincial tribunal at Passau of the charges preferred against him, and condemned to pay a fine of 50 florins costs, and publication of the sentence in the two local journals.

Dr. A. J. Altenhöfer, has retired after many years of service, from the honourable appointment of chief editor of the *Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung*. Ever since the 1st of March the paper is signed by A. Koch as responsible editor.

RUSSIA.

The question of suspending the notorious *Moskwa* of Moscow has been discussed by the Supreme Senate of the Empire in full conclave, when out of 34 members present 20 supported the views of the Minister of the Interior in favour of absolute suppression. But as by the regulations of that assembly their business when in full entirety and not in committee must be decided by two-thirds of the voters present, it required in this case 23 votes for a legal decision, and the case was not finally closed, but goes up to the Imperial Council. The *Golos* affirms that at the above sitting of the Senate three opinions were enunciated—one in favour of total suppression of the paper, another for legal proceedings against the editor, and the third for negating the motion for the prohibition of the *Moskwa*.

DENMARK.

Clandius Madsen, the editor of the *Middelfarth Avis*, a paper published at Middelfarth in the island of Fühnen, some time ago wrote an offensive article on the conduct of the Count von Bernstorff-Gyldensteen, a nobleman living on his estates in the Duchy of Lauenburg, but also possessing large landed property in Denmark, charging him with base ingratitude in not supporting the Danish interests during the war of 1864. The Count felt induced to prosecute the editor, but found it impossible to do so in the Danish civil law courts, as Herr Madsen figures in the Danish Army List as a captain in the Reserve, and he was therefore obliged to bring his complaint against him in the District Court Martial at Odensee, which fully acquitted the editor and only reprimanded him for some of the expressions he had made use of in his diatribe. In the Danish Press generally this verdict was spoken of with great satisfaction, and it is therefore deserving of notice that one of the leading journals at Copenhagen, the *Flyveposten*, should form an exception to the opinions expressed by its contemporaries. "We reproduce the verdict," says that journal, "and cannot refrain from stigmatising it as an unheard-of example of unsupported reasons, which are the more to be regretted as the plaintiff from his conduct and all his antecedents cannot claim the sympathy of a single Dane. Thus it is beyond the limits of credence that any tribunal, civil or military, should acquit a man for saying that the plaintiff 'had left his friends in the lurch in the hour of need and invoked the assistance of the public hangman (*Rakkeren*) to take possession of the amputated limb (of his country) to prevent its being swallowed by the dogs," and not consider such remarks as injurious and offensive.

There are now 108 newspapers published in Denmark, of which number eight political appear daily at Copenhagen, four are illustrated, one (the *Thjodolfr*) is written in the Icelandic dialect; one in French (*L'ami de la famille*), fourteen are class papers and ten periodicals. At Copenhagen, appear seventeen daily and weekly and all the class papers; these latter include one for photography, one for horticulture, two are medical, three agricultural, one industrial, one for the fashions, one for chemists and druggists, one for booksellers, one for music, and two for schoolmasters and on education.

Dr. Krebs, for many years and till 1865, editor of the official organ *Berlingske Tidende*, and since then medical inspector of Seeland, has been appointed Bürgermeister of Copenhagen.

SWEDEN.

The post-office statistics of the present month show the following number of subscribers to Stockholm journals living in the

country and receiving their papers by post: *Afonbladet*, 3,036; *Nya dagligt Allehanda*, 1,853; *Dagens Nyheter*, 2,991; but the *Füderneslandet*, absorbs the lion's share, the number being 5,165.

THE NETHERLANDS.

In the sitting of the second chamber of the States General, held at the Hague, on the 13th of March, the bill for the abolition of the stamp duty, on both home and foreign journals, was definitively passed by 41 to 31 votes. The new law, which will cause an annual loss to the revenue of 700,000 florins, is to come into operation on the 1st of July next.

SWITZERLAND.

A Swiss weekly in the German language is now published at New York, under the title of *Der Grütlianer*, its editor being Herr J. Schläpfer, a native of Switzerland. Its object is to advocate Swiss interests, furnish news from home, give advice to emigrants, and encourage them to keep up their interest in the old country, though domesticated in a new one.

The *Lanterne Suisse*, whose appearance we noticed in our last month's impression, is already extinguished.

GREECE.

The editors of the leading political journals at Athens, have published a joint declaration, promising their support to any ministry pledged to preparations for war, and an increase of the naval and military armaments of the country. They demand the greatest economy in the civil service, patriotic contributions from all Hellenic subjects, to fit out an adequate navy, in case of need a general war-tax for that object, the military education of the rising generation, and the liberal purchase of ammunition and other materials of war on a grand scale.

At a lecture lately delivered in the Hungarian Academy, at Pesth, by Professor Telfy, he gave the following account of Greek literature: "From the capture of Constantinople by the Turks, in the fifteenth century to 1821, when the Greek revolution broke out, the number of books published in the Greek language was 2,210, three-fourths of which were original works, and the remainder, translations from other languages, poetry being most numerously represented. There are now 71 newspapers and 13 periodicals published in Greece, and 19 journals and 3 periodicals in the Greek language not in the kingdom.

TURKEY.

Three new Turkish journals are about to be published in the provinces. The Ottoman Government is imitating the Chilian, which regularly charges its budget with provincial journals, as part of the means of progress.

UNITED STATES.

New York, March 15th.

The great and remarkable libel case, Charles Reade *versus* Sweetser and Gardner, former editors of the *Round Table*, came off in the Supreme Court, before Mr. Justice Clarke, on February 26th and following days. The complaint was against two articles which appeared in the *Round Table* for 1866, headed respectively "An Indecent Publication," and "Did Charles Reade write Griffith Gaunt?" The plaintiff claimed that the notices were libellous in that they accused him of writing an indecent and obscene book, and of unfair dealing in publishing as his own a book he had employed another to write. Practically the issue was whether the articles exceeded the bounds of fair criticism. The book itself was put in as evidence by the plaintiff, and a great portion of it read, the first day by Mr. Vandenhoff, and the second by Mr. Frolicher, professor of rhetoric in the College of New York; and throughout the trial the court was crowded to excess. The reading was stopped by the judge, who, after consultation with his colleagues, considered it was an irregular and unprecedented course. The trial lasted five days, and eventuated in a verdict for plaintiff, with damages six cents.

In San Francisco there are 70 papers, of which 14 are dailies, 33 weeklies, 8 daily and weekly, 4 daily, weekly, and on steamer days, 3 tri-weekly, 2 semi-weekly, 3 semi-monthly, and 10 monthly. Of these 2 are German, 4 French, 2 Spanish, 2 Italian, 1 Chilian, 1 Russian and English, 1 Chinese and English, and 2 Hebrew and

English. Outside the city, but in the State, there are 94 papers, of which 18 are daily and 76 weekly. Of the other States on the Pacific coasts, Oregon has 20 papers, Nevada 10, and Washington territory 8.

The *Hartford Times* office and several adjoining buildings were burned down on the 2nd instant. The loss is estimated at 60,000 dollars.

Partly-printed newspapers were first introduced into the United States by Mr. Kellogg, newspaper printer of Chicago, who now carries on an extensive trade in these useful auxiliaries to struggling journals throughout the whole of the north-western States of America.

Another has been added to the already numerous family of typographic organs in America. It is published at New York, and entitled the *Aldine Press, a Typographic Art Journal*.

SOL.

Charles Wallace, editor of the Warrenton, Georgia, *Clipper*, was shot and instantly killed on the 12th inst. Mr. Wallace had applied for admission into the Masonic Lodge of Warrenton, and was black-balled by Dr. G. W. Darden, who had promised not to oppose his application. Wallace then attacked Darden through the columns of his paper, denouncing him as a liar and a villain. As Wallace was passing Darden's office, the latter shot him from his window with a rifle, the ball passing through Wallace's head, and causing instant death. Wallace was a Democrat and Darden a Republican. Next day he was taken from the gaol at Warrenton by a party of disguised men, who took him some distance from the town, where they shot and killed him.

The following are some choice extracts from recent "religious" papers:—"We cannot make use of anonymous communications. Good penmanship goes a long ways in placating editorial favor for manuscript contributions. Newspaper articles, as well as prayer-meeting talks, should have short introductions. A three-line touch of the hat to the reader is better than a Chinese salaam of half a column. Good orthography is quite desirable. Do not abbreviate unless you are willing the printer should follow copy. How does this look: 'Every Ch sd remember 1 Xtian duty of supporting its Sab Sch.' That is the way some people would write it. Be juicy. Be honest. Flee sham sentiment. Beware of the temptation to write rhymes. Don't mistake a love of controversy for a love of the truth. Give fair play—there are two sides to most questions. Let the editor edit his own paper. In most cases he is a jealous fellow, who won't appreciate your well-meant efforts to relieve him of his labour."—*The Advance*.

Wanted, immediately, at this office!—Short, earnest, spicy, heart-felt articles for the columns of *The Voice*. Ye forgetful ones, with a writing "talent" "hid in napkin," get it out, and go to work with it for Jesus. If we could have a goodly number of brief, but live, articles each week, they would give a new life to the cause.—*The Voice*.

PERU.

The editor of *El Comercio* has been condemned by President Balta to be shot, for inserting in his journal an attack on that functionary. It was only with the greatest difficulty that the ministers were enabled to prevent the execution of the sentence.

CUBA.

The latest advices from Cuba state that the liberty of the Press is suspended there for a time. Printers and distributors of newspapers are prohibited issuing the papers without previous permission of the Government. All persons guilty of transgressing the above law to be tried by court-martial.

CANADA.

A new weekly paper, called the *Yamasha News*, has been started at St. Hyacinthe, province of Quebec. It is to be the organ of the English-speaking people of the vicinity, and is published by Camille Lussier.

AUSTRALIA.

It is rumoured that the recent change in the proprietorship of the *Herald* newspaper is likely to lead to the publication of a third daily newspaper in Melbourne, under the auspices of capitalists and practical printers. The politics of the new journal will be ultra-liberal.—*Dallarat Evening Post*.

A paper in the Chinese language has been started in Melbourne (Australia), the title of which is the *Chinese Courier*.

NEW ZEALAND.

The *Wellington Independent* gives the following as a species of mild insanity:—"In the competition between the Otago papers, the *Times* and *Sun*, the northern war news has been telegraphed to both lately at an enormous expense. We have reason to know that a week's telegrams cost the *Times* £75, and the *Sun* £56.

The *Canterbury Press* is now in the hands of a joint-stock company, and appears as a penny morning daily paper.

NEW JOURNAL.—We have to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of a new daily paper published on the Thames gold-fields. It is entitled the *Times and Thames Miners' Advocate*. It contains a fair quantity of reading matter, and is well and clearly printed.

Law Intelligence.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S COURT.—March 1.

(Before Vice-Chancellor Sir R. MALINS.)

RE THE CHELTENHAM AND SWANSEA RAILWAY CARRIAGE AND WAGON COMPANY (LIMITED).

Mr. Cotton, Q.C., and Mr. Millar moved in this case, to commit the printers and publishers of the *Bristol Daily Times* and *Mirror* for printing and publishing the greater part of the petition to wind up this company, with comments on the conduct of directors. The ground of the motion was, that pending proceedings in this court, the printing and publishing of those proceedings was a contempt of court, as being calculated to prejudice those coming as suitors, and the court would interfere by making the parties so acting pay the costs. On the 25th of February last the petition (except the numbers of the paragraphs) was printed *in extenso*; on the 11th of February a paragraph also appeared in the newspaper in question showing the *animus* of the printing and publishing the petition.

Mr. Glasse, Q.C., in opposition to the motion, objected to the reading of this, as going behind the notice of motion, which applied to the 25th only.

The Vice-Chancellor said it had better be read, and he would then decide whether it was within the notice.

Mr. Cotton, Q.C., then said that this Company was formerly known as Shackelford, Ford, and Co., and in the paper of the 16th it was stated that it having been mentioned that proceedings were to be taken against the directors a petition had been filed, and the petitioner, the Rev. Mr. Johnstone, was a shareholder who had made some strong remarks, &c. The petition so published charged the directors with fraud as to the fixing the value of the goodwill, with wholly disregarding the interests of the shareholders, and with securing to themselves personal benefits and gains; it also charged fraud and acts with a view to cover their own irregularities, and the only paragraph left out was as to the petitioner being the holder of so many shares, &c., which was the only one not calculated to injure the company, which the publication of all the rest was most certain to do. Lord Hardwicke laid it down that such a course as here pursued could not be permitted. Whatever passed in court could be published if fairly reported, even day by day; but it must be done without comment or anything amounting to the showing of a bias. Here the charges made in the petition were wholly denied by affidavit, and therefore this was the publication of an *ex parte* and injurious statement. The only statement pertinent was that the company could not pay its debts.

Mr. Glasse, Q.C., and Mr. Rigby, for the parties, moved against, denied that anything like comments or remarks accompanied the publication of this petition. On the question of contempt, it was not a contempt to publish this petition without comment. In the well-known Titchborne case such a motion was made against the *Pall-Mall Gazette*, where it was decided to be an interference with the course of justice, but other newspapers having republished the articles without comment no costs were given against them. The present respondents were exactly in that position—it was a mere republication of a thing open to the public. There was no desire to publish it again, and the printing

was done without the remotest intention to advocate one side or the other, or the least idea that any wrong was done. The publication of a paragraph saying that a petition containing such and such statements had been presented would not be wrong; and how could the publication of the petition itself be so? This motion was made without any communication with the respondents, otherwise a paragraph would have been at once inserted. There was no desire to injure any one, but the publication was given as an ordinary piece of news.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the publication was not entirely without comment. It was not the right of the public generally, nor the duty of solicitors to distribute copies of petitions of this kind; it was only for contributories and creditors. This petition was full of the gravest charges, and if the publication of them was permitted, it might be made the vehicle of most injurious effects generally, or upon individual character. Wherever a newspaper, on its own motion, or at the instigation of others, published proceedings in this Court that was a contempt, and the parties publishing it were amenable to the consequences. Although this motion was made without giving the parties an opportunity of retracting, it was a matter of such public importance that there must be the usual order as to costs. The committal was not pressed for, nor would it have been acceded to if it had been. His Honour was satisfied that this was a mere inadvertence of the respondents.

BOW-STREET POLICE COURT.—MARCH 6TH.

Colonel Henry Fuller, the editor and proprietor of the *Cosmopolitan* newspaper, appeared to answer a summons charging him with having written and published a malicious libel against Mr. J. G. Harding, of Weston-super-Mare, gentleman.

The prosecution was conducted by Mr. Montagu Williams, instructed by Messrs. Davison and Campbell, and the defence by Mr. Holland, instructed by Mr. Eley.

Mr. Harding had formerly advanced money to Colonel Fuller to carry on the paper, and had also contributed articles, and a serial novel to its columns. Disagreements had arisen, and Mr. Harding had ceased to write for the paper, and had pressed Colonel Fuller for the money. Colonel Fuller was arrested at Mr. Harding's suit, and went through the Bankruptcy Court. After this a series of attacks on Mr. Harding appeared in the *Cosmopolitan*, which it was now contended were libellous. The one selected as the special ground of prosecution was a letter to the *New York Round Table* in answer to one which had appeared in that paper by Mr. Harding, and which seemed to have been bitterly resented by Colonel Fuller, who is an American. Colonel Fuller soundly abuses Mr. Harding for dragging the name of a lady into the controversy, and observes that he is only restrained from flogging him by a desire to "spare a cowhide the degradation of touching him." Mr. Holland wished to read the letter of Mr. Harding, but Mr. Flowers declined to hear it. This amounted to a justification and counter-charge of libel, and was clearly a question for a jury.

Defendant was committed for trial, but admitted to bail in one surety of £40, and his own recognizance of £80.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. HENRY COOKE.

The death of Mr. Henry Cooke, the editor and one of the proprietors of the *Oxford Chronicle*, took place at his residence, St. John Street, Oxford, on the 14th March, in the 78th year of his age, which he had completed on the day previous to his death. The deceased gentleman was a native of Oxford, where his family had resided for many generations, and in which city he spent the whole of his life. In February, 1837, he started the *Oxford Chronicle and Berks and Bucks Gazette* as an organ of the Liberal party in the city of Oxford. For many years the deceased continued the sole proprietor of the paper of which he was the originator; but in 1858 the *Chronicle* became the property of the "*Oxford Chronicle Company, Limited*," in which, however, Mr. Cooke retained a considerable pecuniary interest. Notwithstanding his great age, his mind was always clear and vigorous, and he continued to discharge his editorial duties until a few days before

his death. In private life, he was a kind and affectionate husband and a loving father; while the cheerfulness of his disposition, and his courteous manners, endeared him to a large circle of friends and acquaintance. His remains were interred, on the 17th of March, in the cemetery at Jericho, near Oxford.

MR. GEORGE TOWNSEND.

On the 25th of February died by his own hand, in a fit of insanity brought on by over-work and by too great pressure upon the brain in connection with the late general election, one of the most able, ready, and fluent political writers of the London Press—George Henry Townsend. He was a strong and consistent Conservative, and was latterly connected with the *Press* newspaper.

Home Subjects.

A NEW SPORTING PAPER, price twopence, appeared on March 20th, under the title of the *Beacon*.

THE "OWL," it is said, was started by Mr. Lawrence Oliphant, and the title is a transposition of the initials of his name.

A NEW Conservative daily paper for the West of England is to appear at Cardiff under the title of the *Western Mail*.

A NEW fortnightly paper has appeared at Manchester, called *Life and Labour*.

THE "DARTFORD EXPRESS" is a new penny weekly, lately started.

NEW Conservative papers are about to appear at Ashton-under-Lyne and at Glossop.

ANOTHER new local paper for the North of London was started on the 18th of February, under the title of the *Holloway Examiner and North London Times*.

A NEW daily Conservative paper, the *Western Standard*, has just appeared at Plymouth; and a new Conservative weekly has also just started at Bury St. Edmunds.

A M. JONGLET claims to have discovered a process whereby he can obliterate the ink from newspapers and convert them into sheets of virgin purity.

"THE GLOWWORM."—It is only a few months since we announced that the *Glowworm* had passed into the hands of Mr. Beeton. It has now closed its career, after a troubled existence of four years.

"THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' ADVOCATE" is the title of a new class organ, the first number of which has been sent to us. It is well got up and contains 32 pages, price 9d., and is to be continued monthly.

THE amalgamation of the *London Review* with the *Examiner* has been announced to take effect on and after Saturday, the 3rd of April, under the title of the *Examiner and London Review*. The price, we understand, will be reduced to threepence.

DEATH OF COLONEL SLEIGH.—The death on the 29th March of Lieutenant-Colonel Bernard W. A. Sleigh, who was the founder

and first proprietor of the *Daily Telegraph*, is announced. He was formerly connected with H.M.'s 77th and 2nd West India Regiments.

SALE OF THE COPYRIGHT OF THE "CHURCH NEWS."—This Ritualistic organ was sold by auction, by Mr. Hodgson, at his rooms, Chancery Lane, on Thursday week. It was thus described in the catalogue:—"The *Church News*, an Anglo-Catholic weekly journal, having an extensive circulation among an influential class, and holding an acknowledged position in the interests of the High Church party. Actual sale between 4,000 and 5,000 weekly. The copyright and right of continuation; with about 50 sets complete of the back numbers." And yet it went for an old song—£30. The Church Press Company were the purchasers. If continued at all, it will be carried on as a Gladstonian organ."—*Rock*.

Notes and Queries.

AM I RIGHT?—Yes and no. Mr. Howard Paul was, in early life, a journalist, and, we believe, at the age of eighteen, editor of a newspaper in his native city of Philadelphia. He was also, for a short time, connected with the English Press, but never editor of the journal you name. Certainly not—nor ever associated with it. We can speak authoritatively on this point.

J. B. J.—Why not register your paper at once?

R. T.—The letter has been properly addressed and forwarded to the private residence of the party.

A SUGGESTION (without signature).—The editor of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* has committed the precious "hint" to the flames.

F. B.—Apply to Mr. F. Algar, 11, Clement's-lane; Mr. George Street, 30, Cornhill; or Messrs. Gordon and Gotch, Holborn-hill—all in London. They will doubtless send you lists of the leading Colonial papers.

Obituary.

BRAND, W. A., editor of the *Montrose Review*, age 32.

BORROUCH, ALOIS, founder and manager of the *Centralblatt für Landwirtschaft*, at Prague.

COOKE, HENRY, on the 14th March, editor and one of the proprietors of the *Oxford Chronicle*.

FRANKLYN, J. B., many years one of the proprietors of the *Melbourne Herald*, at Melbourne, Jan. 2.

HÜTTNER, LUDWIG, editor of *Kolatschek's Skizzen*, at Leipzig.

LESFES, M., of the *Liberal Bayonnais*, at Bayonne.

ROERDANZ, DR. ALBERT, at Vienna, a journalist of thirty years' standing.

WICHMANN, DR. HEINRICH, for many years editor of the *Schlesische Provinzial Zeitung*, at Krotzscham.

SLEIGH, LIEUT.-COLONEL, on the 29th March, the founder of the *Daily Telegraph*.

TOWNSEND, GEORGE, on the 25th February, of the *Press* and other newspapers.

WALLACE, CHARLES, on the 13th ult., editor of the *Warrenton Clipper*.

BANKRUPTS.

DAY, WILLIAM GIBBONS, Oxford, newspaper agent.

PEARSON, JOHN, York, newsagent.

MCDONALD, SAMUEL FOSTER, East Stonehouse, newsagent.

PARTNERSHIP DISSOLVED.

The Leeds and Yorkshire Advertising Company.

Honourable Mention Awarded for Printing Materials, Class XXVIII., No. 5291,
International Exhibition, 1862.

COMPOSITION ROLLER AND PRINTING MATERIAL MANUFACTORY.

FREDERICK ULLMER,

WOOD LETTER CUTTER, BRASS RULE MAKER,

AND

MANUFACTURER OF PRINTING MACHINES,

Of Every Description, by Steam Power and the most Approved Machinery,

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(ESTABLISHED 1825.)

Patent "Moss" Rubber Inking Roller.

S. MOULTON & CO., KINGSTON INDIA RUBBER MILLS, BRADFORD-ON-AVON,

BEG to call the attention of the Printing Trade generally to their PATENT "MOSS" RUBBER INKING ROLLER, composed of a new and homogeneous material of the consistency of Moss, and hermetically sealed in a smooth skin of specially prepared India Rubber.

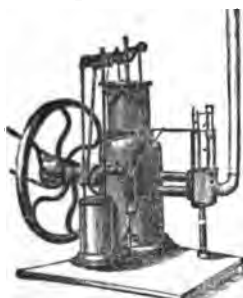
The advantages they claim for these Rollers, as compared with the ordinary Composition Rollers, are,—

1. Their great durability, on account of the unchangeable nature of the material.
2. They are wholly unaffected by any temperature.
3. They are not damaged by brass rule.
4. They are permanently soft and elastic.
5. They can be used immediately after being washed.

These Patent "Moss" Rubber Inking Rollers, can be obtained from no other parties than as above; and Notice is hereby given that the necessary legal steps will be taken where requisite, to protect S. Moulton's Patent for the manufacture of "Moss" Rubber from all infringement.

N.B.—The Ink must be washed off these Rollers before laid by. Alkalies only may be used, such as Pearlash, Potash, or Ammonia. Turpentine, and every kind of Oil, Soft Soap, or Grease, must be carefully avoided.

PRICE.—Hand Rollers, Eight Shillings per foot length, three inches outside diameter; lengths under one foot, 9d. per inch. Iron Fittings charged cost price, 9d. per foot. Machine Rollers charged according to dimensions. Iron Fittings at cost price.



IT REQUIRES NO ENGINEER.
IT REQUIRES NO WATER.

THE PRINTERS' ENGINE.

EDWARDS & CO.,

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MANUFACTURERS OF THE

PATENT HOT-AIR ENGINE.

THE ABOVE ENGINE IS BY FAR THE MOST ECONOMICAL MOTIVE POWER KNOWN.

COST OF WORKING, ONE PENNY PER HORSE POWER PER HOUR.

IT REQUIRES NO GAS. IT CANNOT EXPLODE.
IT REQUIRES NO FITTING. IT DOES NOT INCREASE INSURANCE.
IT CAN BE STARTED IN A FEW MINUTES.

Sold by HUGHES & KIMBER, West Harding Street, Fetter Lane, London.

DAVIS AND PRIMROSE, DUKE STREET, LEITH,

MANUFACTURERS

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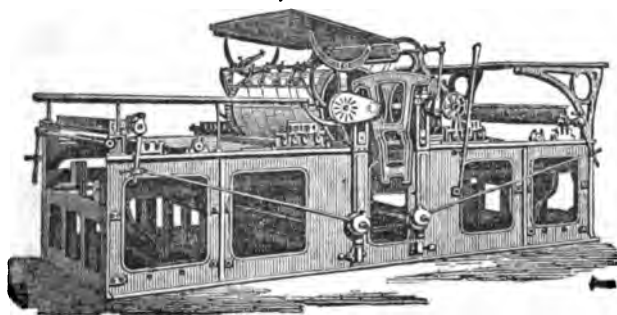
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Fast Perfecting

GRIPPER MACHINES,



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MACHINES,**

**SINGLE CYLINDER
MACHINES,**

**HYDRAULIC & SCREW
PRESSES,**

EMBOSSING MACHINES,

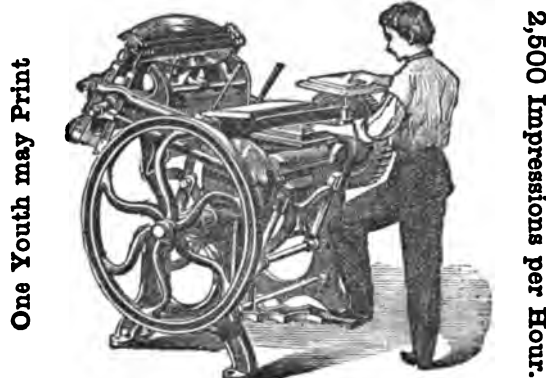
Steam Engines & Boilers

&c., &c.

H. S. CROPPER & CO.'S PATENT "MINERVA" PRINTING MACHINE.

This is the most Compact, Elegant, and Speedy,
Platen Machine ever made:

CAN BE WORKED BY HAND, FOOT, OR STEAM.



MAY BE SEEN AT WORK DAILY AT

H. S. CROPPER & Co.'s, NOTTINGHAM,

Patentees and Manufacturers;

AND AT THE OFFICE OF THE LONDON AGENT,

S. CROPPER, 70, CHEAPSIDE.

TESTIMONIALS.

31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

Messrs. H. S. CROPPER and Co.

GENTLEMEN,—We have pleasure in informing you that the "Minerva" Printing Machine, supplied to us about two months ago, gives us entire satisfaction. The simplicity of its arrangement, beauty of construction, and excellence of workmanship, combined with its other qualifications, justify all that you told us in its favour. The ease of its motion, and its great speed, are important features in the "Minerva;" whilst the freedom from danger in working assists in rendering it a very desirable machine.

Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

Messrs CROPPER and Co., Nottingham.

GENTLEMEN,—We most willingly give our testimony to the value and efficiency of your "Minerva" Machine, especially with regard to its speed and economy. We consider it the most useful time-saving machine that has come under our notice.

We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
CURTIS and BEAMISH.

6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

DEAR SIR,—We have pleasure in stating that the "Minerva" Machine supplied to us gives satisfaction in every respect.

As a Machine for Cards and Small Jobs, we consider it unequalled, both in quality of work and the ease by which Jobs can be started.

Your Machine deserves a large sale.

Yours truly (for M'CORQUODALE and Co.),
D. CULROSS.

Since the above testimonial was given, Messrs. M'Corquodale and Co. have ordered a second machine.

Messrs. CROPPER and Co.

Halifax, 23rd October, 1867.

GENTLEMEN,—The "Minerva" gives entire satisfaction. Every movement is smooth and easy, and the machine may, on this account, be run at a very high speed without danger. The distribution is perfect, and the forme is rolled more evenly than could be done by hand. We are very much pleased with it.

We are, Gentlemen, yours most truly,
T. and W. BIRTWHISTLE.

WOOD ENGRAVING

IN ALL ITS BRANCHES,

With Superior Finish, Economy, and Despatch,

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22 CHANCERY LANE

LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,

The Engravings you have supplied for our Illustrated Price Current give us great satisfaction.

Yours truly,

JAMES PERRY & CO.

RED LION SQUARE, LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,

We are perfectly satisfied with the Engravings just sent home.

Yours obediently,

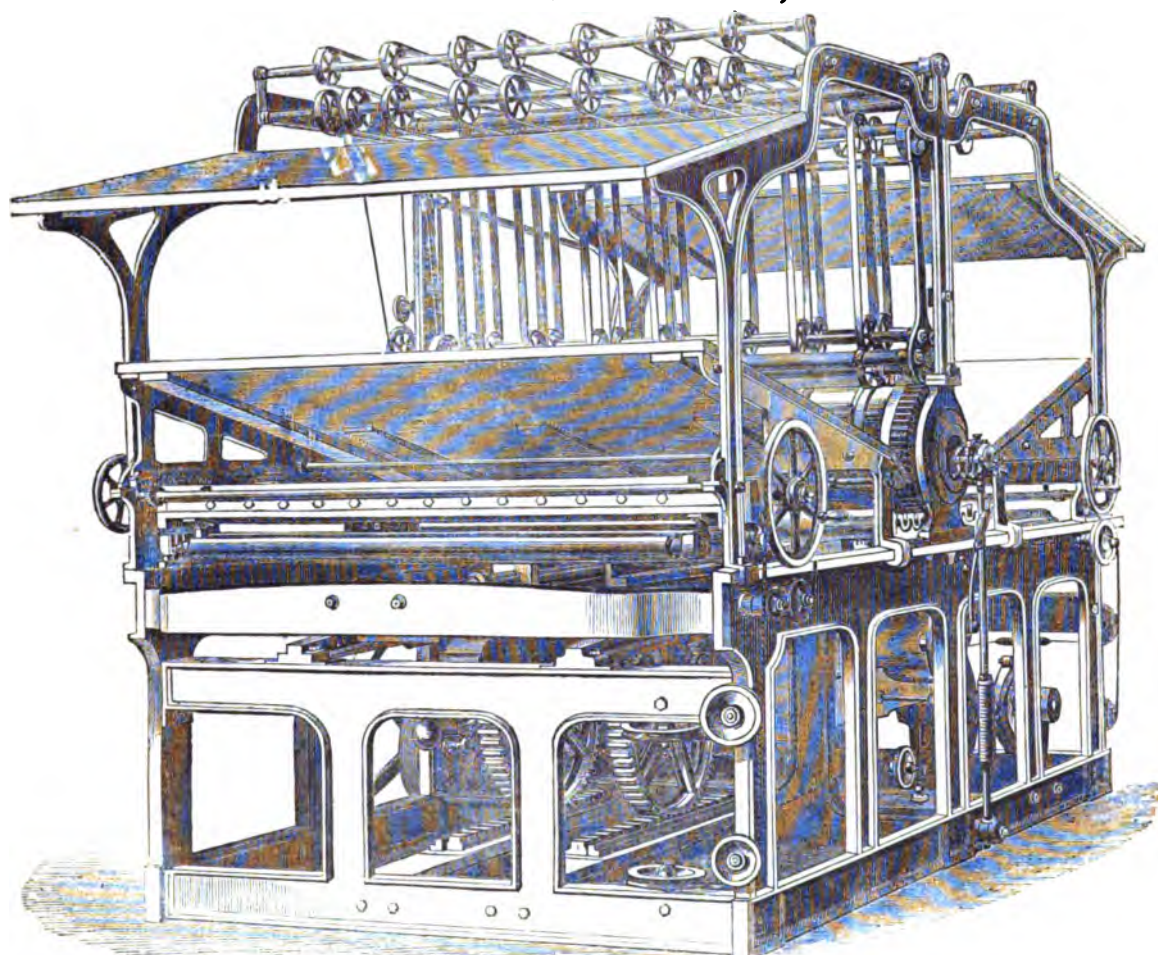
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OXFORD STREET, LONDON.

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ASHFIELD FOUNDRY, OTLEY, YORKSHIRE.



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THE WHARFEDALE TWO-FEEDER PRINTING MACHINE (to print 3,500 per hour).

THE WHARFEDALE CYLINDER ditto (to print 1,500 per hour).

" " CYLINDER, SINGLE COLOR ditto

" " CYLINDER, TWO COLOR ditto

" " CYLINDER, TUMBLER ditto

" " DIAGONAL AND VERTICAL PAPER CUTTING MACHINES for Steam and Hand Power.

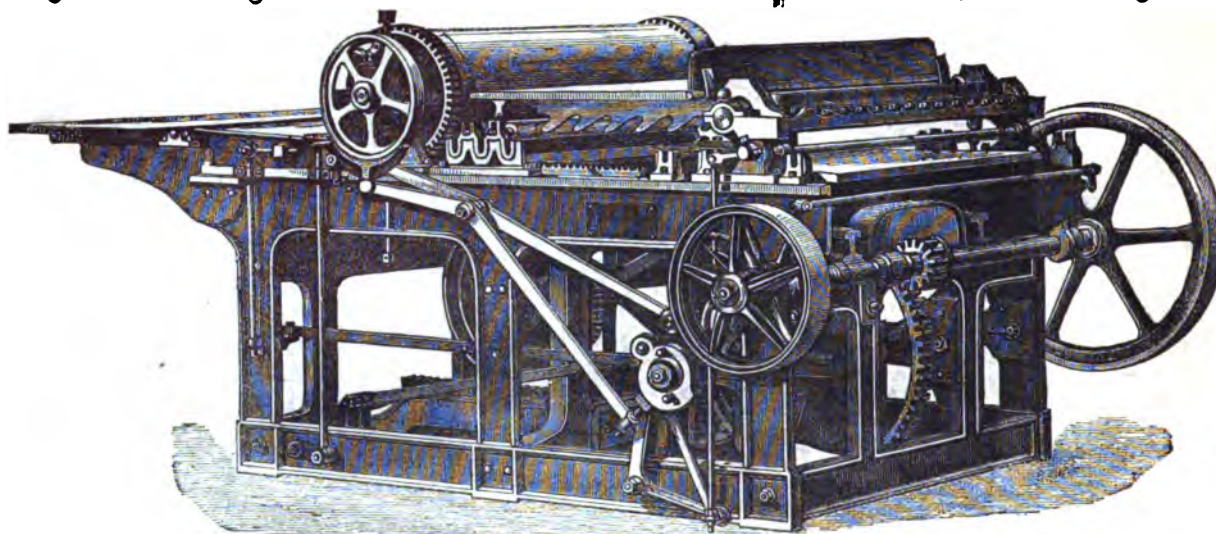
" " IMPERIAL PAPER CUTTING MACHINE.

Also, Millboard and Card Cutting Machines, Label Cutting Machine for Steam and Hand Power, Rolling Machine for Bookbinders and Printers, with Cast and Chilled Rollers; Paper Ruling Machines, Perforating Machines, Ink Grinding Mills, for Steam Power; Athol and Screw Presses, Steam Engines, Boilers, Shafting, &c.; Book-Sawing and Book-Scoring Machines, Iron Imposing Surfaces and Stands, Machine and Press Roller Moulds, Wrought and Cast Iron Chases, Side and Foot Sticks.

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To Print a Forme			To Print a Forme		
Crown	21 in. × 16 in.....	£70 0 0	Double Crown	30 in. × 20 in.....	£120 0 0
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Royal	26 in. × 20½ in.	£105 0 0	Double Royal	42 in. × 29 in.....	£170 0 0

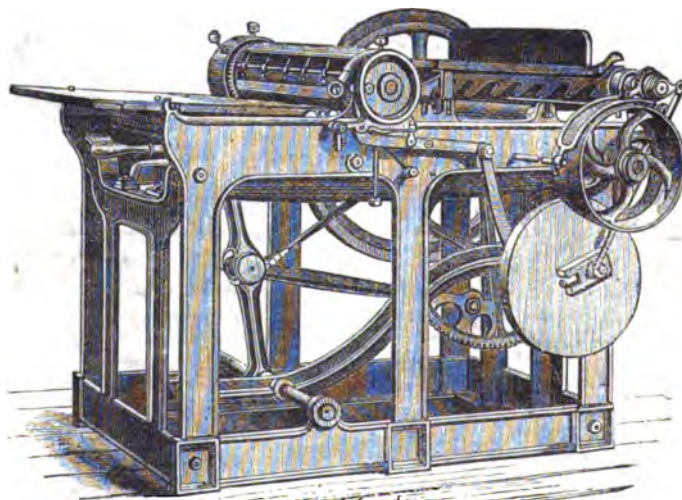
Machines made specially for Printing in Colours at higher Prices.

ARRANGED FOR
HAND OR STEAM
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HALF-SHEET DEMY,

£45,

Including Two Sets of Roller
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SPEED,

1000 to 1500

PER HOUR.

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Including Two Sets of Roller
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Engineers, Machinists, and Manufacturers of Printing Materials,
WEST HARDING STREET, FETTER LANE, LONDON.

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REPORTERS,
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STATIONERS,
TYPE FOUNDERS,
PRINTERS,
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READERS,
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ADVERTISEMENT AGENTS,
PUBLISHERS, AND
"THE TRADE."

No. 80.—VOL. III.

Registered for
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MAY 1, 1869.

Subscription 4s. per
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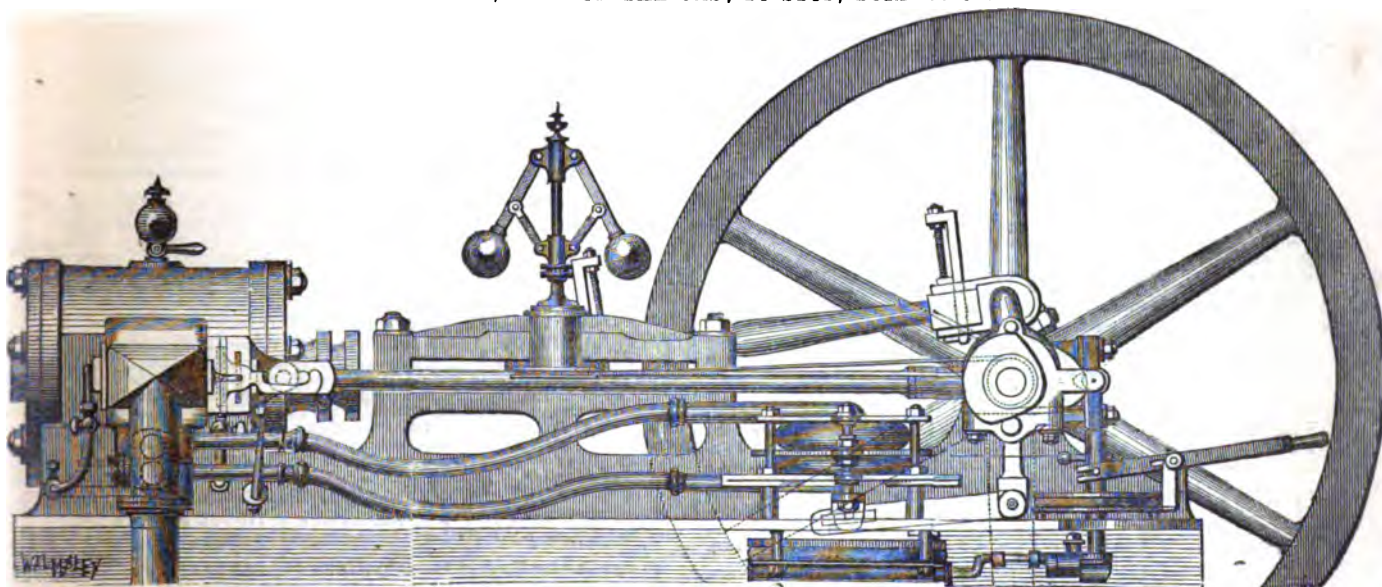
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HUGON GAS ENGINE: NO ELECTRICITY, NO BOILER.

SELECTED BY THE HIGHEST AUTHORITIES AS

The Simplest, Cheapest, and Best Engine of the Day.

TO START, TURN ON THE GAS; TO STOP, TURN IT OFF.



THE FOLLOWING ARE SELECTED FROM NUMEROUS TESTIMONIALS:—

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London, January 16, 1868.

SIR,—Your Gas Engine drives my three Printing Machines with the greatest ease; and with ordinary care and attention, any one desirous of motive power will find your Engine economical and highly useful. The Engine gives off no offensive smell, is very quiet in the working, and I shall be happy to exhibit it to any one who may be desirous of seeing it at work, and to give any information respecting the same.

E. Casper, Esq.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

J. MILES.

NORTHAMPTON (49, GOLD STREET),

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DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in stating that the Half Horse-power Hugon Gas Engine you fitted up for me, so far as an experience of three months enables me to form a judgment, fully bears out the statements respecting it contained in your prospectus, and has steadily continued to do in an efficient manner all that I require of it.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

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Particulars and numerous references may be obtained, and the Engine

MAY BE SEEN AT WORK AND TESTED IN ANY MANNER AT THE SOLE MANUFACTURER,

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Price, Delivered in London—Half-Horse Power, £65; One-Horse Power, £85; Two-Horse Power, £110;
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Unstamped 3d., Stamped 4d.,
THE BANBURY GUARDIAN,
AND GENERAL ADVERTISER,
FOR THE COUNTIES OF
OXFORD, NORTHAMPTON, WARWICK, BUCKINGHAM,
WORCESTER, AND GLOUCESTER.
ESTABLISHED 1838.

The peculiar local position of Banbury, the Town standing in two Counties and within a few miles of four others, together with the rapidly rising importance of the place, renders the GUARDIAN an eligible medium for Advertisers; in many instances superseding the necessity of Advertising in Five County Papers, with the additional advantage to Advertisers of circulating largely amongst those classes that have money to spend.
Printed and Published by JOHN POTTS.

TO ADVERTISERS.

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The Leading Weekly Paper in the South Yorkshire Coal, Iron, Linen, and Agricultural District, and the best Advertising Medium in its locality.
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WILTS and GLOUCESTERSHIRE STANDARD, and
CIRENCESTER and SWINDON EXPRESS. Published every Saturday. Price 3d. and 4d. The oldest and best paper in the district, and has the widest circulation. The following (from the Government Returns) shows the stamped circulation of the Standard, as compared with that of the only other stamped paper published in the same neighbourhood: Wilts and Gloucester Standard, 97,000, North Wilts Herald, 20,982. Head Offices, Cirencester.

LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY NEWSPAPER IN THE EAST
RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.—ESTABLISHED 1864.

THE EASTERN MORNING NEWS and HULL ADVERTISER. Published every Morning. Price One Penny. The Hull Daily Express and the Hull Advertiser, Established in 1794, have been incorporated in the Eastern Morning News, and the Proprietor begs to call the attention of Advertisers to the facilities which it affords for bringing every class of Business Announcements under the notice of the Public. Its circulation is IMMENSELY SUPERIOR to that of any newspaper in the East Riding of Yorkshire; its List of Subscribers includes the names of nearly every member of the large Manufacturing, Shipping, and Trading interests, in Hull, Grimsby, and Beverley; and the patronage bestowed upon it by all classes of the community, renders it beyond all question THE VERY BEST MEDIUM in the East Riding or North Lincolnshire for Advertisements of every kind. To provide room for Advertisements without encroaching on the space usually allotted to News, on Saturdays the Eastern Morning News and Hull Advertiser consists of 48 columns, or double its ordinary size. Liberal arrangements made for continuous or frequently repeated Advertisements.
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Letterpress and Copperplate Presses and all kinds of Machinery repaired.
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Price List of Presses on application.

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NEWSPAPER PRINTERS, &c.—A New Machine by MYERS, in use only about three months, for sale, cheap; will print a forme 48 by 35 inches.

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WHARFEDALE MACHINE.—A Secondhand SUPER ROYAL (by DAWSON), for best colour work, for sale.
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ESTABLISHED 1852.

EXHIBITION OF 1862—HONOURABLE MENTION.

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ELECTROTYPY AND STEREOTYPE,
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Produces all kinds of Electrotypes for Printing, Embossing, Bookbinding, &c. Contracts entered into for Bookwork and Periodicals, or for large quantities. Country Orders executed with promptitude. Commissions in all branches of the Printing business undertaken in London or Paris.

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Agents for the Letter-Press Trade:—Harrild and Sons, 25, Farringdon-street, London, E.C., who have on hand a large Stock of Blankets and Tapes.

SUPERIOR WOOD ENGRAVINGS.

The Publishers of the "Art Journal" respectfully announce that they have on hand a large and varied Stock of Wood Engravings, which have appeared in that Journal and in other illustrated works issued by them; and that they are now prepared to supply Electrotypes of the best quality from any of these Blocks, at the rate of Ninepence per square inch (with a few exceptions). The Electrotypes will be delivered ready for printing, and guaranteed to work equally as well as the original Wood Engravings. They comprise several complete Series, in addition to a large miscellaneous collection, amounting in all to

ABOUT TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND.

Copies of the whole may be seen, at any time, at VIRTUE and Co.'s, 394, City Road, London; or further information will be furnished by Post to inquirers.

A very extensive Stock of Engraved STEEL PLATES, in good condition, are also available for printing from, on very moderate Terms.

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La Belle Sauvage Yard, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

The Newspaper Press:

THE PRESS ORGAN.

PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST OF EACH MONTH.

SUBSCRIPTION—FOUR SHILLINGS PER ANNUM,

POST FREE, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Whole Page £4 | Quarter Page £1 15s.
Half Page £2 10s. | Ordinary Advertisements per line, 9d.

(Special Arrangements for Front and Back Pages.)

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No Advertisement inserted under 5s.

Communications for the Editor to be addressed to the Publishing Office, 11, Ave Maria-lane, E.C.

Advertisements to be sent to Mr. GADSBY, 10, Crane-court, Fleet-street, E.C.

Post Office Orders to be made payable to, and receipts signed only by Mr. ALEXANDER ANDREWS.

Western Office—Mr. ONWHYNN'S, 1, Catherine-street, Strand.

E. W. ALLEN, Publisher, 11, Ave Maria-lane, E.C.

We have some misgivings as to the interest which is felt by the general public in the abstract philosophy of journalism, but we have no doubt at all about the impropriety, and even indelicacy, of newspaper writers boring the public every month in the magazines with their special views of it. The success which this journal has achieved, and the fact of its circulating widely beyond purely Press circles, are no proofs of the disposition of outside readers to listen to dissertations, occupying ten or twelve pages of our "monthlies," on the different aspects of our profession; for the historical records of newspaper history, which it is one of our duties to collect and record, the full and careful reports of the progress and development of the Press all over the world, and the personal sketches and notices furnished by veracious contributors possess an interest which extends beyond the area of journalism. But that newspaper writers should think it becoming, or that magazine editors should allow them, to come before the readers of a general periodical, and set to work villifying their calling, or, on the other hand, conjuring up for it a most exaggerated and ridiculous importance, is to us something incomprehensible.

Last week the newspapers themselves followed the example of the magazines. In the course of an otherwise excellent article on the bosh talked at the Liverpool dinner to Mr. Dickens, the *Pall Mall Gazette* remarked that—

"Writing for newspapers or editing magazines are, no doubt, professional pursuits, but they should be described by their proper names—as branches of the profession of journalism. To call them the literary profession is to use language too big for the occasion, and very likely to mislead."

To this, two days afterwards, the *Globe* rejoined:—

"The lexicographers tell us that 'a profession is an employment requiring a learned education.' To a learned education some knowledge of grammar must be considered essential. And a man may be a writer in a newspaper without any knowledge of grammar. When he says, for example, that writing for newspapers or editing magazines 'are' this or that; or when, as in another portion of the paper, he says of playgoing and conversation, 'each of which require a certain degree of effort,' we have a right to infer that he is not learned, and therefore that he cannot engage in 'professional pursuits.' Our censor proceeds to show that writing for newspapers or editing magazines 'are' branches of the profession of journalism. Have then the professors of journalism any quasi-corporate existence? He adds, in conclusion, 'to call them the literary profession is to use language too big for the occasion.' This dictum is from the pen of a writer in a newspaper; and it is proclaimed against the author of the most successful novels published during the present century. Its audacity confounds its absurdity. It would be easy to show that writing in a newspaper according

to any fair standard of journalistic merit, requires all the highest faculties and qualities of the literary artist. Much of the literary work of a newspaper is necessarily done on the instant, and in a hurry; but the demand upon the writer's powers and resources is all the greater. Journalism every day becomes more important as a department of literature, and the newspaper writer who says that the newspaper writer is not a literary man really requires his own grammatical blunders to give the force of even sophistry to his argument."

Now, the question of grammar apart, does the public care one iota whether journalism is a profession or not?

The *Leader*, which is particularly fond of analysing journalism, discovers a peril to our permanent literature in the absorption by the periodical Press of the rising talent of the day. Our contemporary takes Mr. Lecky for his text:—

"In his new work on European Morals, Mr. Lecky calls particular attention to a 'momentous intellectual revolution' which is at present taking place in England. He points out that the instructive functions of literature, which used to belong to writers of books, have been almost entirely handed over to the journalists who write in the daily and weekly papers. Even in such abstruse subjects as philosophical and ethical theories, Mr. Lecky maintains that the weekly papers especially exercise a greater influence than any other productions of the day in 'forming the ways of thinking of ordinary educated Englishmen.'"

Amplifying and elaborating this idea the writer proceeds:—

"Journalism is the most convenient vehicle which an intellectual man, who has anything to say to the world, can find. By this means he is placed in direct communication with a large number of persons—a far greater audience than he could hope to secure—unless his fame be already established—by publishing a book. The chances are, that instead of having one particular notion which he would like to ventilate, he has a dozen, or a hundred, or perhaps he is moved only by a vague desire to go on treating of subjects from time to time as they may arise, giving to them that particular bent they will acquire in passing through his mind. Obviously he could not expect to get people to read a dozen, or a hundred, books; irrespective of the consideration that, perhaps, not one of the hundred notions is worth expanding into a book. Journalism, however, gives him an opportunity of saying just as much as the subject may require, and no more; and of saying this so that the people most likely to pay heed to the subject will have their attention directly drawn to it. On the other hand, the publishing in book-form has also its especial advantages. Here a man is not hurried by Press considerations into publishing any immature or ill-considered judgment. He has plenty of time for elaboration; and he is cheered by the hope that this elaboration will not only be of value to his contemporaries, but will be regarded with favour and gratitude in times to come. The anonymous writing of journalism has its immediate effect, and passes by, without the writer reaping one word of praise or thanks from the public; whereas the same ability in a book would earn for him the congratulations and esteem of thousands. But beyond and above all these considerations as to a man's choice of the proper vehicle for his literary labours, is the paramount one of money. Journalism is lucrative, book-making is not; and writers, like other people, have themselves to feed, and occasionally families to support. There are many men now engaged in journalism who wage a running fight with circumstances in this fashion; they write anonymously in newspapers and periodicals for just so much money as suffices to yield them the bare necessities of existence, and all the rest of their time they devote to the production of permanent literature. This sort of struggle, nevertheless, is seldom very much prolonged; because the literary aspirant, when he finds that the books on which he has bestowed so much labour do not fetch him a tithe or a twentieth of what the same labour employed in journalism would have fetched, generally becomes tired of the effort, and relapses into permanent journalistic work. Altogether, of the two vehicles, there can be no doubt that journalism is by far the more seductive and attractive. The author risks less, and gains more: it is the public only who suffer.

"For, however much the public may benefit by the clever workmanship thrown into journalism, we are convinced they suffer in the long run, by the abstraction of that intellectual power whose proper path is literature. The influence of mental vigour in journalism is great, diffuse, and transient; the same expenditure of vigour in literature would have a less effect at first, but a much greater, because permanent, result afterwards. We do not look upon our newspapers and journals as showing literary waste because their articles are unnecessarily good. The abler they are the better. The literary waste lies in the consumption of a special kind of ability which is better fitted for literature than for journalism."

We are far from denying that there may be some amount of truth in these remarks; but, after all, what do they point to? The old-established laws of supply and demand. It is the whim

of the public to buy newspapers instead of books—to look for essays in broad sheets instead of bound volumes. And the newspaper proprietor, anxious to suit his customers, gives a good price for the material they demand of him. Whether he outbids the publisher of permanent literature, or whether the article would be better if longer time could be afforded for its preparation, may still be open to doubt. Brilliant writers often rob their productions of much force and fire by going over them a second time; and we believe that all experience shows that a man of real genius in any walk of literature strides on regardless of the allurements or the lucre of the Press. Whatever may be the superior scale of remuneration it did not retain Macaulay, Campbell, Thackeray, or even Dickens in its ranks nor prevent their soaring to the loftier heights to which they felt within themselves the power of flight.

Since the above remarks were written, the *Morning Star* has protested against the snobbishness exhibited by certain journalists in sneering at journalism as a profession. Our contemporary cannot "comprehend the motives or the purpose of that depreciatory tone with reference to the calling indulged in by some writers."

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

VIII.—"SLANDER OF TITLE"—LORD CAMPBELL'S ACT, 1843.

We wish, at once, to call the attention of journalists to a new and important point which has recently arisen under Lord Campbell's Act of 1843, 6 & 7 Vict. c. 96. By the second section of that Act—having reference to actions for libel contained in a public newspaper—it is enacted "that it shall be competent to the defendant to plead that such libel was published without actual malice, and without gross negligence; and that, before the commencement of the action, or at the earliest opportunity afterwards, he inserted in his newspaper a full apology for such libel; and upon filing such plea, the defendant shall be at liberty to pay into court a sum of money by way of amends for the injury sustained by the publication of the libel."

The question which arose under this section was whether, where before the commencement of an action the defendant's attention is called to the libel, the defendant, if he intends to avail himself of the provision enacted by this section, is bound to publish the apology, before the commencement of the action, "at the earliest opportunity" after his attention has been called to the publication. Until this question arose, it had been generally assumed that, for the purpose of pleading under this Act, it was sufficient if the apology was published at the earliest opportunity *after* the action had been brought; but Mr. Justice Keating has put a wider construction upon the words of the second section. He holds that the defendant is bound to insert the apology at the earliest opportunity before the commencement of the action, if his attention is previously called to the publication.

The case in which the question arose was that of *Ravenhill v. Upcott*, tried at the last Staffordshire Assizes. It was an action for "slander of title" contained in an advertisement published in the defendant's newspaper—the *Wolverhampton Chronicle*. The advertisement was sent, in the ordinary course of business, to that paper, and had reference to an estate in Staffordshire, called the "Horsehills" purchased by the plaintiff, a solicitor, who, upon acquiring it, had sold certain portions of it for building purposes, and was offering for sale further portions, when, on the 6th January last, the advertisement in question appeared. It was headed "Important Notice," and referring to the Horsehills estate, cautioned the public against buying any property formerly belonging to certain persons (naming them) as owners of that estate "without ascertaining that the title deeds of the same were correct, as the heirs were not dead, nor abroad, but were still alive."

The plaintiff having seen this advertisement on the 11th January, wrote, on the 18th, to the defendant, complaining of it as having been "maliciously inserted with a view to injure him,"

and requesting to be furnished with the name and address of the person at whose instance it was inserted. The defendant complied with this request by immediately furnishing the name and address of the advertiser; but the plaintiff, instead of seeking his remedy against that person, wrote immediately to the defendant intimating that he must hold *him* responsible for the publication. This was on the 15th January. The defendant made no further communication to the plaintiff, who, on the 21st January, issued a writ against the defendant for slander of title. This was the commencement of the present action, of which, however, the defendant had no notice till the 30th January, when the writ was served. Then, on the 10th February, the defendant inserted in his paper of that date, a paragraph "greatly regretting that the advertisement should have been published," and adding that "it was inserted inadvertently in the way of business, without any knowledge that its contents reflected on the title to any property."

The plaintiff, having proceeded with the action, notwithstanding this apology, the defendant was advised to plead to it, in the terms of the 2nd Section of the Act, and to pay into court a sum of £10, "by way of amends." This he did; but we must say we think this was a mistake; and indeed our surprise is that such a plea should ever have been suggested in an action of this kind. Lord Campbell's Act, as recited in the preamble, is "for the better protection of private character"—not for "slander of title;" and we believe this is the first case in which a similar plea has been placed on the record in such an action. However, the plea was not objected to by the plaintiff, and no application was made on his part to strike it out, as being irregular. Why should it have been objected to? It suited the plaintiff exactly. He, a shrewd attorney, saw at once it could not be sustained. The apology had not been made "before the commencement of the action," nor "at the earliest opportunity afterwards." So a verdict against the defendant was certain! This the plaintiff knew.

The case went down for trial at the assizes, before Mr. Justice Keating, when it was contended, on the defendant's part, that the apology had been published at the "earliest opportunity," within the meaning of the Act; that it was not imperative on the defendant, under the second section, to insert it before the commencement of the action; and that it had been inserted in the very terms of the section "at the earliest opportunity afterwards." Mr. Justice Keating, however, held that the apology should have been made as soon as possible after the defendant's attention had been called to the libel, and *before* the commencement of the action. "A newspaper proprietor," said the learned judge, "laboured under the difficulty, sometimes, of having advertisements brought to him which, if not carefully examined, would make him liable for the insertion of libellous matter, and as, in a large business, he might occasionally do this inadvertently, the law regarded the offence as almost venial. On the other hand, he might conduct his business so carelessly and recklessly that, apart from the question of actual malice, he might, without due care, recklessly and negligently admit into his columns advertisements which were calculated to do a very great injury. With regard to an apology to be made for an inadvertent publication, where there was no actual malice, such apology must be inserted at the "earliest opportunity," and it was only reasonable that it should be so; because when a man had read a libel in a newspaper, the law thought that his attention should be drawn to the contradiction, and the apology for it, as soon after as possible. Now, in the present case, the defendant had inserted an apology, and had paid £10 into court. But he had not inserted the apology at the earliest opportunity, and therefore his plea was not proved, and there was really no defence to the action." Under this ruling of his lordship, the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £10; alluding to that sum as "being the amount paid into court;" and several of the jury afterwards stated that they thought, in such a case, the defendant would not be liable to the plaintiff's costs. In this, however, they were mistaken, the learned judge having given a certificate to entitle the plaintiff to his costs.

We may mention, with regard to costs in libel actions, that if the Libel Bill introduced by Mr. Baines in the present session is passed the second section of Lord Campbell's Act will be practically superseded. No special plea will then be necessary alleging the absence of "actual malice" or "gross negligence," nor that an apology was made; though, no doubt, in the case of an inad-

vergent libellous publication, or one that cannot be justified, an apology will be made voluntarily, and at the "earliest opportunity." The clause introduced in the Bill to which we have referred, regarding the payment of money into court, is as follows:—"In actions for libel the defendant shall be at liberty to pay into court a sum of money by way of amends for the injury sustained by the publication of such libel, and such payment into court shall be of the same effect, and available in the same manner and to the same extent, and shall be subject to the same rules and regulations, as payment of money into court is now available and subjected to in other personal actions." Under this clause a defendant in a libel action—whether the libel be published in a newspaper or otherwise, will be at liberty to pay money into court, and upon his doing so, then, if the plaintiff proceeds to recover a greater amount, the only question will be, whether the sum paid in is sufficient? If the jury find that it is, the verdict will be for the defendant. If not, then, on their finding for a larger amount, the verdict will be entered for the plaintiff for the amount found, over and above the sum paid in.

It is, perhaps, worthy of remark—though the point does not seem to have been raised at the trial—that the apology was not, in fact, inserted even at the earliest opportunity after the action had been brought. This will have been seen from the dates as given above. The delay could, it seemed, have been satisfactorily accounted for; but an explanation at the time would have been of no avail as a defence to the action.

THE NEWSVENDERS' SUNDAY MOVEMENT.

A MEETING of wholesale newspaper venders was held last month in the News Exchange, Black Horse-alley, Fleet-street, for the purpose of discussing the expediency of obtaining a Sunday holiday for newsvenders. Mr. Pierce, Kennington, was in the chair. Letters from Captain Grosvenor, M.P., and Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P., were read, apologising for their non-attendance, and expressing their cordial approval of the movement. Letters from retail newsvenders, expressing wishes that the movement would succeed, were also read. The chairman briefly opened the business, observing that the objects of the movement, which had originated in retail dealers in Pimlico, were to give a Sunday holiday to upwards of 6,000 men, women, and boys, who were at the present time employed in the demoralising avocation of hawking newspapers on the Sunday. This evil might, in his opinion, and also in the opinion of many others, be remedied if the newspaper proprietors would co-operate in the movement, which he was sure would prove anything but prejudicial to the sale of their papers. On the contrary, it was generally believed that if the newspapers were published on Saturday evenings in time to enable them to be delivered the same night, it would tend rather to increase than decrease the sale of such papers. It was thought by the Pimlico committee of the association that, as the Sunday editions of the weekly papers rarely contained any later news than is contained in the special edition of the *Evening Standard*, and two or three other evening papers, it was advisable to petition Parliament to bring in a bill, or to introduce a clause in any Sunday Trading Bill, to abolish the Sunday trading in newspapers, so far as to prevent them from being published, delivered, or hawked about the streets on that day, thus rendering it necessary for the last edition of the weekly papers to be published on Saturday to enable the newsman to deliver them in reasonable time, instead of deferring those duties till the Sunday morning. Mr. Curtis, in a speech supporting the movement, moved a resolution to the effect that a central committee should be formed to carry on the work of the association of obtaining a Sunday holiday for newsvenders. Mr. Cookson seconded the motion. Mr. Hockett objected to one-sided movements. If they prevented the hawkers selling papers, it would be only fair that they should also shut up the shops. The shopkeepers, as a rule, were comfortably off, and they would not feel any small diminution in their profits, but they must remember that if they asked Parliament to prevent the hawking they would shut out of a living those 6,000 men, women, and boys for whom they were trying to get a Sunday holiday. He thought it fair that the feeling of those 6,000 persons—indeed, the whole trade—should be canvassed before the wholesale dealers went to Parliament.

Mr. Terry supported the movement, but thought it much better to get the co-operation of the newspaper proprietors than to go to Parliament to compel them to publish on the Saturday instead of on the Sunday. Mr. Jenkinson contended that the movement was altogether impracticable. He had been through the same business ten years ago. The motion was put and carried with one dissentient. The central committee was then appointed, and a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman closed the business.

THE NEWSPAPERS &c. REPEAL ACT, 1869.

UNDER the above "short title," a Bill has been "prepared and brought in by Mr. Ayrton and Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer," and "ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 8th April, 1869," "To repeal certain Enactments relating to Newspapers, Pamphlets, and other Publications, and to Printers, Typesetters, and Reading Rooms." It proposes to repeal sundry Acts relating to Seditious Meetings and Societies; and the Acts 39 and 40 George III. cap. 95; 41 George III. (U.K.) cap. 80; 49 George III. cap. 69; 51 George III. cap. 65; 55 George III.; &c., &c. But the principal bearing upon Newspaper property is that it would be proposed to repeal the 60 George III. cap. 3, and 1 George IV. cap. 9, so far as the remnants of those Acts still require the recognisances with sureties for the publication of a newspaper, and on the proposed repeal of 11 George IV. and 1 William IV. cap. 73, it will be proposed to further eliminate the enforcement of such recognisances in satisfaction of damages for libel. By the repeal of the 6 & 7 William IV. cap. 76, it is proposed to abolish the regulation for sending a copy of each number to the Stamp Commissioners.

The proposed alterations incorporated in Schedule II., which directly affect newspapers, are as follows:—

Every person who shall print any paper for hire, reward, gain, or profit, shall carefully preserve and keep one copy (at least) of every paper so printed by him or her, on which he or she shall write, or cause to be written or printed, in fair and legible characters, the name and place of abode of the person or persons by whom he or she shall be employed to print the same; and every person printing any paper for hire, reward, gain, or profit who shall omit or neglect to write, or cause to be written or printed as aforesaid, the name and place of his or her employer on one of such printed papers, or to keep or preserve the same for the space of six calendar months next after the printing thereof, or to produce and show the same to any justice of the peace who within the said space of six calendar months shall require to see the same, shall for every such omission, neglect, or refusal forfeit and lose the sum of twenty pounds.

No person shall be prosecuted or sued for any penalty imposed by this Act, unless such prosecution shall be commenced, or such action shall be brought, within three calendar months next after such penalty shall have been incurred.

And any pecuniary penalty imposed by this Act, and not exceeding the sum of twenty pounds, shall and may be recovered before any justice or justices of the peace for the county, stewardry, riding, division, city, town, or place, in which the same shall be incurred, or the person having incurred the same shall happen to be, in a summary way.

If any person shall file any bill in any court for the discovery of the name of any person concerned as printer, publisher, or proprietor of any newspaper, or of any matters relative to the printing or publishing of any newspaper, in order the more effectually to bring or carry on any suit or action for damages alleged to have been sustained by reason of any slanderous or libellous matter contained in any such newspaper respecting such person, it shall not be lawful for the defendant to plead or demur to such bill, but such defendant shall be compellable to make the discovery required; provided always, that such discovery shall not be made use of as evidence or otherwise in any proceeding against the defendant, save only in that proceeding for which the discovery is made.

Every person who shall print any paper or book whatsoever which shall be meant to be published or dispersed, and who shall not print upon the front of every such paper, if the same shall be printed on one side only, or upon the first or last leaf of every paper or book which shall consist of more than one leaf, in legible

characters, his or her name and usual place of abode or business, and every person who shall publish or disperse, or assist in publishing or dispersing, any printed paper or book on which the name and place of abode of the person printing the same shall not be printed as aforesaid, shall for every copy of such paper so printed by him or her forfeit a sum not more than five pounds: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to impose any penalty upon any person for printing any paper excepted out of the operation of the said Act of the thirty-ninth year of King George the Third, chapter seventy-nine, either in the said Act or by any Act made for the amendment thereof.

It shall not be lawful for any person or persons to commence, prosecute, enter, or file, or cause or procure to be commenced, prosecuted, entered, or filed, any action, bill, plaint, or information in any of Her Majesty's courts, or before any justice or justices of the peace, against any person or persons for the recovery of any fine which may hereafter be incurred under the provisions of the Act of the thirty-ninth year of King George the Third, chapter seventy-nine, set out in this Act, unless the same be commenced, prosecuted, entered, or filed in the name of Her Majesty's Attorney General or Solicitor General in England or Her Majesty's Advocate in Scotland, and every action, bill, plaint, or information which shall be commenced, prosecuted, entered, or filed in the name or names of any other person or persons than is in that behalf before mentioned, and every proceeding thereupon had, shall be null and void to all intents and purposes. The Bill passed through Committee on the 22nd.

The *Morning Star* points out that the object of the bill is to abolish those regulations in regard to printers of newspapers which assume them to be persons of a blasphemous and seditious turn of mind, whilst retaining all those practical provisions by which the public are enabled to get at the responsible parties who publish libellous matter in whatever form. The law has always drawn a wide distinction between spoken and printed slander. The former it has regarded as venial and the offspring of momentary vexation; the latter it has been disposed to regard as malicious, and in its nature much more hurtful. This distinction is founded in justice, and the public are entitled to have every facility to get at the responsible circulator of any printed libel. All wise arrangements for this purpose respectable newspapers will be the first to accept.

THE TRIALS OF EDITORS.

We make the following extract from an address recently delivered before the "Iowa Press Association" on this subject:

"In speaking of the revenues of the Press, I cannot refrain from expressing my views on the subject of free advertisements. There is always to be found in every considerable community a set of creatures who imagine that by some dispensation they ought not, like other mortals, to pay for what they receive. Editors have extraordinary facilities for making their acquaintance, and are kindly permitted to contribute gifts to their support. In what other branch of business would this be tolerated? Allowing that one has put the Press under some obligation, does he not generally expect to get back more than the worth of his services? If a man does an editor a favour of a marketable value, let him have his remuneration in cash. On the other hand, require him to pay for what the paper does for him. It is just as reasonable to expect the carpenter to shingle your house, and the tailor to make your clothes without charge, as to expect an editor to prepare and publish matter for another's benefit without compensation. Lengthy obituaries, marriages ornamented by extracts from all the poets, and lengthy puffs of some one's corner lots or improvements, come under this class of advertisements. This custom of gratuitous notice, and advertisements from whatever quarter, ought to cease, for a reason that it would be a benefit to the printer's pockets, and would in some degree abate an almost intolerable nuisance. The printer's path has more thorns than roses; and there is no law, human or divine, that should oblige him to shoulder the burdens of those who are too lazy or stingy to take care of themselves. People will come to terms where they find their interests are involved in a reasonable compliance.

Perhaps no man is made the subject of more abundant concern,

and is watched with more untiring vigilance than the editor of a paper. Nearly every other man seems to imagine he can edit a paper better than the editor himself. So editors are pestered with hangers-on in the office, and advised by incompetent mentors; are graciously waited upon by political and reform committees; are bored by strangers and adventurers, and all who have even any diminutive specimens of outlery to grind. I will not attempt to disturb the present serenity of this body, which now providentially enjoys a little respite, by recalling, by portraiture, the interruption, the perplexities, the insane requests, the abuse, the bores, the senseless criticism, the wanton indignation that an editor is liable to suffer, and has to expect as a part of his experience. At best his position is a trying one. But the sooner he gives all sorts of people to understand, in the most courteous language, that he is the manager of his own paper, the better. Threats to discontinue; effective descriptions of personal interests in its success; all kinds of gushing demonstrations, may be safely ignored. Few men in the land are comfortable without their paper, and the more unflinchingly independent its course, the better they will like it. No honest editor, as I have suggested, loses anything in the long run by his straightforward manliness and courage. Of all despicable things, a journal that veers to each breath of blame; that trims its sails for the breeze of vulgar applause; that sacrifices its independence for a mess of pottage, is the most contemptible. Surely my words will find response in every honest heart when I say, Be master of your own position; be lord over your own domain; be judge on the bench of your own sanctum—the jury that decides is the enlightened opinion of your readers.

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

VIII.—THE "NORTHERN WHIG."

The *Northern Whig* was established in Jan., 1824, as a weekly paper, by Francis Dalzell Finlay, who up to that date had been a book and job printer in Belfast, whose improvements in typography had given him a reputation for peculiar skill and taste. At that time a Liberal newspaper in Ulster was unknown, and the starting of such a paper gave great offence to the aristocratic party. Many efforts were made to crush it. Libel action after libel action was brought against it by the landlords of Ulster. The proprietor, under the then law of libel, was twice put in jail, once for six, and once for nine months; he was heavily fined repeatedly: his household effects were auctioned out, yet he overcame all these impediments, and with the exception of suspension of a few publications, the paper was carried on continuously, and speedily became a power in Ireland. The first editor was a Mr. Peterkin, who was selected by Francis Jeffery (afterwards Lord Jeffery) of the "Edinburgh Review," and sent over to Ireland to conduct the new Liberal venture. To him succeeded Mr. John Morgan, who afterwards established the *Nevry Examiner*. At this period the *Northern Whig* was sustained by several able local contributors, among whom were James Emerson (the late Sir James Emerson Tennent, Bart.), the Rev. Dr. Montgomery, the well-known leader of the Unitarian party in Ulster; Mr. Maurice Cross, afterwards secretary of the National Board of Education, the Rev. Mr. McEwen, and other local writers. The next editor was the late Mr. James Simms, who conducted the paper for 21 years with great success, and on his secession, established a rival paper, which, after nine years' competition, became extinct. The *Northern Whig*, at first a weekly, had rapidly expanded into a bi-weekly, and then into a tri-weekly, and had been frequently enlarged until it was the largest paper in Ireland. Succeeding Mr. Simms, came that well known and brilliant journalist, the late Edward Whitty, author of "The Stranger in Parliament," son of the proprietor of the *Liverpool Journal* and *Liverpool Daily Post*, and who had been for three years on the Parliamentary staff of the *Times*, and for two years on that of the *Daily News*, and served his editorial apprenticeship on the original *Leader*. Mr. Whitty died at the early age of 32, greatly regretted. From him the editorship passed to Mr. Frank Harrison Hill, B.A., who was, after five years, called to the editorial staff of the *Daily News* in London, and was succeeded by the present editor, Mr. Thomas Macknight, author of "The Life of Edmund Burke," "The Life of Bolingbroke," and

other important standard works on English Constitutional and Political History. In Sept., 1857, the original founder of the *Northern Whig* died, and the property and its management passed to his son, of the same name, who in Feb., 1858, changed the publication to a daily issue, at the same time reducing the price from 3d. to 1½d.—this being the pioneer of the cheap daily press movement in Ireland, as up to that time no daily paper had been attempted at so low a price. Not long after, the price was reduced from 1½d. to the now universal penny, and the sheet has been several times enlarged, until it is now one of the largest four-page dailies in the kingdom. The *Northern Whig* has always held a conspicuous position, from its energetic management and progressive political views, and it is indisputably the leading provincial Liberal paper in Ireland, although attached to no religious party.

ULSTER.

ROBERT BONNER.

I RECENTLY promised you some passages in the life of Mr. Bonner from "Sunshine and Shadow in New York;" but, by an oversight, omitted to send them. I have cut them down considerably to meet the exigencies of your space, but they may still prove of interest. Mr. Bonner was born in the North of Ireland, not far from Londonderry. He is simply a Scotchman born in Ireland. At an early age he entered the printing-office of the *Hartford Courant* to learn the art of printing. He was dexterous, swift at setting type, and led all the workmen in the nimbleness with which he could set up an article. The President's Message, in those days, was transmitted by mail. The editor of the *Courant* purchased an advance copy, paying for it the enormous sum of thirty dollars! The only advantage to be derived from this early copy was in getting the message out in advance of other papers. To accomplish this, Mr. Bonner performed the unheard-of feat of setting seventeen hundred ems an hour. He performed all the duties connected with his position, became an accomplished printer, tried his hand at correspondence, and seated himself occasionally in the editorial chair.

In 1844, Mr. Bonner removed to the city of New York. There was a popular impression that a literary paper could not succeed in this metropolis. Boston and Philadelphia monopolised the family newspapers and literary weeklies, and it was said that no paper of the kind could prosper in this city. Mr. Bonner thought otherwise. He early resolved to attempt a paper that should be circulated throughout the whole land. He watched his opportunity and bided his time, working hard in the meanwhile, and not being dainty in the place or style of business in which he engaged.

In the office of the *American Republican* Mr. Bonner commenced his New York career. The wages paid him were small. His work was hard, and economy was requisite to enable him to live. He formed the habit, from which he has never departed, of buying nothing that he could not pay for. He never borrowed a dollar of money, never signed a note in his life, and now carries on his great business on strictly cash principles, and literally owes no man anything. In some of his large enterprises, he has paid his last dollar, and never has once failed in the venture he made. In some of his great advertising feats, in which he has paid as high as twenty-five thousand dollars a week for advertising, he has been offered lines of papers to increase the advertisement to fifty thousand dollars, with unlimited credit, and his answer has invariably been, "I cannot advertise beyond my means. I have no more money to spend in that way." The whole business of the *Ledger* is conducted on the same principle to-day.

The *Republican* was an evanescent affair, and Mr. Bonner found permanent employment on the *Evening Mirror* as a practical printer. He had an eye for beauty, and the *Mirror* advertisements became very famous. There was a small mercantile paper in New York, known as the *Merchant's Ledger*. It was devoted almost entirely to commercial matters, with a very limited circulation. A young man, whose business it was to get up advertisements, was struck with the elegant manner in which Mr. Bonner made-up the *Mirror*. He called the attention of the editor of the *Ledger* to Mr. Bonner's capacity, and this culminated in an engagement with Mr. Bonner to become the printer of that paper. He occasionally wrote articles that attracted attention, from their terse, compact, and spicy composition. Shortly after he entered the office, Mr.

Bonner purchased the *Ledger*. He seated himself in the editorial chair, and resolved to realise the visions of his youth. He did not change its character at once, but gradually. The *Ledger* became less and less commercial, and more and more literary. About this time, Fanny Fern was creating a great sensation in the literary world. Her Ruth Hall had just appeared, and the work and its authoress were criticised by the Press in all parts of the land. She was the literary star of the day. Mr. Bonner saw his opportunity, and sent a note to Fanny Fern, offering her twenty-five dollars a column to write a story for the *Ledger*. She declined the offer. Another proposition was sent, offering her fifty dollars a column. That she also declined. Seventy-five dollars were offered. That she declined, announcing that she did not intend to write any more for the newspapers. She admitted that she admired Mr. Bonner's pluck. Soon it was intimated to Mr. Bonner that if he would allow Fanny Fern to write a story of ten columns, more or less, though the story should not occupy less than nine columns of the *Ledger*, she would undertake it. He closed the contract immediately, received the manuscript, read six lines, and sent her a cheque of one thousand dollars. He resolved, with this story, to introduce a new era in the *Ledger*. He changed the form of the paper, double-leaded the story, so that it made twenty columns in the paper. He advertised it as nothing was ever advertised before. He had paid an unheard-of sum for a story—one hundred dollars a column. The harvest was a golden one. Out of the profits of that story Mr. Bonner purchased the pleasant residence in which he now lives.

Mr. Edward Everett had taken upon himself to aid the ladies of America in purchasing Mount Vernon. Mr. Bonner resolved to secure Mr. Everett as a writer for the *Ledger*. He knew that money could not purchase Mr. Everett's connection with his paper. He offered Mr. Everett ten thousand dollars to write a series of articles for the *Ledger*, the money to be appropriated to the purchase of the tomb of the father of his country. Mr. Everett could do no less than accept. At the conclusion of the Mount Vernon papers, Mr. Everett continued on the *Ledger* until his death. Mr. Bonner paid him over fifty thousand dollars for services rendered on his paper.

It was Mr. Bonner's policy to spike every gun that could be aimed against him, and make every influence and every prominent man his ally. To this end James Gordon Bennett, of the *Herald*, Henry J. Raymond, of the *Times*, and Horace Greeley, of the *Tribune*, became contributors to the *Ledger*.

Mr. Bonner secured the services of the presidents of twelve of the principal colleges in this country to write for his paper. Of course it would not be improper for the young men in colleges to take a paper for which the president wrote.

Paul Morphy, in the height of his popularity, edited a chess column in the *Ledger*. Bryant, Willis, Halleck, Morris, and Saxe laid a poetical wreath at Mr. Bonner's feet. Prentice, Bancroft, Parton, and Cozzens joined the galaxy of *Ledger* writers. Fanny Fern, Mrs. Southworth, and other eminent novelists, furnished the entertaining serials published by Mr. Bonner.

On the death of Mr. Everett, Mr. Bonner enclosed a cheque to Mr. Bancroft, with a note requesting him to prepare a suitable article for the *Ledger* in commemoration of the distinguished statesman. The article was prepared and sent to Mr. Bonner. It contained no allusion to Mr. Everett's connection with the *Ledger*. The article was sent back, and the omission pointed out. A sharp correspondence followed, in which Mr. Bancroft attempted to establish the propriety of the omission. Mr. Bonner refused to receive the article, and he finally carried his point, and Mr. Everett's connection with the *Ledger* had a marked place in the eulogistic article.

While Mr. Beecher was attending a council in his own church, a letter was put into his hands. He had had no conversation with Mr. Bonner about writing a story. The letter contained a proposal that Mr. Beecher should write a serial for the *Ledger*, and named the price which would be paid for it, which was perfectly astounding. "Miracles will never cease," said Mr. Beecher, in his note replying to the proposal. Norwood appeared, and the increased circulation of the *Ledger* immediately reimbursed Mr. Bonner for his extraordinary outlay. The story was longer than was expected, and an addition was made to the price agreed upon.

SOL.

CONVEYANCE OF NEWSPAPERS BY POST.

In proposing in the House of Commons, on the 6th ult., a reduction of the postage of newspapers to one halfpenny, Mr. Graves cited the following statistics:—In 1838, when the penny postage was introduced, there were 444 newspapers in the country, with a total circulation of 26,000,000 a year. In the present day, however, there were single papers in London which circulated 10,000,000 more copies in a year than the whole country circulated in 1838. In 1846 there were 555 papers published in the country, two of them at the price of 2d. In 1861 there were 1,102 papers, 809 of them published at 1d.; and in 1868 there were 1,372, 688 or 50 per cent. of which were published at a penny or less; of that number 89 were daily papers, 80 of which were published at 1d. or ½d. each. He had obtained these particulars from Mr. Mitchell, a gentleman who published a Newspaper Press Directory. The tendency in London was steadily in the direction of cheap literature. Of 198 newspapers published weekly, 73 were priced at 1d., and five at ½d.; of 364 monthlies, 90 were 1d., and 25 a ½d.; and what was also remarkable was that, with some half-dozen exceptions, these penny and halfpenny publications were, for the most part, of a religious and educational tendency, calculated to educate and elevate the people—a highly satisfactory circumstance in itself, and a powerful argument in favour of reducing the charge for carrying our cheap literature (hear, hear). The restrictive policy of England, in this respect, was not observed in other countries; on the contrary, special facilities were given for the conveyance, by the post office, of cheap social literature. In Belgium the charge was one-tenth of 1d.; there were seven daily deliveries in the large towns, and throughout all parts of the country one delivery daily at every house. In Italy the rate was the same. In France the charge of 1-5th of 1d. carried a newspaper everywhere, even to Algiers; in Portugal the charge was ½d.; in Switzerland it was one-third of ½d. In the United States four ounces were carried from one end of the country to the other, if paid a quarter in advance, for one-third of a 1d. if newspapers, and for ½d. if periodicals. Small periodicals, not published more than once a week, were carried at the rate of ½d. for 4 oz.; while in some districts four copies of a newspaper were allowed to be sent free within the county in which it was published. The result was, that in the United States 900 millions of newspapers were circulated, or about 34 per head of the population. In England, unfortunately, there was no record whatever of the total circulation of newspapers, but looking at the Post Office returns, and taking everything in the shape of printed matter that went under the head of book-post, which means everything not a letter, the total number of packages delivered through the post was only 100 millions, or 3½ per head of the population.

STEREOTYPING NEWSPAPERS.

(From the *Printers' Circular*, Philadelphia.)

Few persons are aware of the fact that our principal morning journals are not printed directly from the type, but from stereotypes taken from the regular forms. The whole time consumed in making the forms is about twenty minutes. It is accomplished thus: Each page is made up in a separate form on a table, in size and height expressly adapted for the purpose; the legs of this table are furnished with castors, and as soon as the forms are locked, the table is rolled into the stereotype room. The form is then removed to the moulding table; the latter has a hollow iron bed, the cavity of which is filled with steam, as heat is one of the requirements in facilitating the operation. After the right temperature is attained the form is removed again to the imposing table, and two or three sheets of a peculiar kind of paper are laid over the surface of the type, and they are then beaten down with a proof brush.

The form is then again slid upon the moulding table, another and heavier sheet of paper placed over the first, this is covered with a blanket, and then slipped under the press attached to the moulding table, and the power applied. This is done almost instantly, when the form is again run out, and the paper peeled off is a complete matrix of the whole form.

A preparation of French chalk is now applied to the surface of

the paper, when it is placed in a mould, the hot metal poured against it, and the plate almost instantly formed. It is now moved to the planer, is cut, routed, and justified, and in a few moments is on its way to the press room. These plates are cast in the exact form required for a cylinder press, and about half-an-inch in thickness.

THE JOURNALIST.

(From the "*Victoria Magazine*.")

He must accommodate himself to the taste of his readers, and act the part of an intellectual pastry-cook—the stock-broker, the lawyer, the *fainéant*, the scholar, the statesman, the rogue, and general literary dabbler, are all in want of food, and he must supply them; he must know how to fight campaigns, storm entrenchments, advise generals, and handle the troops; he must have at his fingers' ends the most abstruse sciences, and the newest and most useful methods of applying them. If the Prime Minister looks careworn, he must know the reason; if war breaks out, he had always prophesied it; where doctors of divinity differ, or the Lord Chancellor is in doubt, he can decide the point; in short, where all others confess ignorance, he alone must be wise; and if he cannot get information, he must give it. But to perform well indeed this last part of his work, namely, that of news inventor as well as critic, he will require considerable powers of imagination, combined with an unlimited amount of self-confidence; in fact, the power of playing at nine-pins, as it were, with himself, in a game where he must represent both pins and bowls, raising his own objections, and knocking them down again. The successful journalist must be able to rouse the storm in the teapot, and then ride his own whirlwind; get indignant over grievances of his own invention, and then father them on the public; crush other men's castles in the air, and substitute his own; use abuse unsparingly, and sting where he cannot strike. All this requires abilities of no mean order, though the field for talent, to be sure, is a wide one. It is well to be able to reason, though vehemence will answer instead; the man must be a consummate actor, or a natural enthusiast, an accomplished trimmer, or a staunch partisan, accommodating as elastic, or of uncompromising obstinacy. With any or either of these talents the journalist may succeed, and will be permitted to guide public opinion, though, as a rule, an independent tone is not so popular as a more flexible character. For there will always be one difficulty, namely, as to how far public opinion will follow its guide.

THE LITERARY CRITICISMS OF THE NEW YORK PRESS.

(From the *Round Table*.)

SOME of the most striking instances of this perversion of a really good quality to a really bad use are found in those columns of our daily Press in which new books are reviewed. We do not for a moment imagine that the gentlemen who write these *advers*—we beg their pardon, reviews, are "paid to praise." Nor can we think that they are any more ignorant of literature than the average of mankind. On the contrary, we are confident that they themselves would repel such an insinuation with quite as much contempt as it would deserve. We cheerfully admit our belief that they are acquainted with the names of many of the best writers, and that the titles of a number of the celebrated works of the time are by no means unknown to them. In the face of these facts we are not at all inclined to be so presumptuous as to intimate that these gentlemen do not know what they are talking about. We prefer, when such a supposition is at all consonant with appearances, to think that the indiscriminate *laus librorum* which in our dailies constitute so large a portion of the matter under the head of *New Publications* is mainly attributable to the good humour of the reviewers—a good humour exhibiting, of course, some of the imperfections we have mentioned as its usual concomitants, and displaying a moiety of perversion, but a genuine, honest good humour for all that. We can imagine how disagreeable a duty it would be to say unkind things of a book without ever having opened it; to crush with iron pen the budding fame of a young author who has never done and never could do us a

greater wrong than to require us to read his book; to step outright the sale of a whole edition by a few trenchant sentences of disapproval in that great arbiter from whose decision there is no appeal—the daily newspaper. We fully appreciate the difficulties which beset reviewer, and do not wonder that his inimitable good humour deters him from expressing his honest disapproval of the book he does not understand. Huc relates that in China to accept even the most urgent invitation is construed either as a personal affront or an evidence of ill-breeding. Shall we be less courteous than the Chinese? When a publisher indirectly begs us to give an honest opinion of his book shall we be so uncivil as to give it, even supposing we have an honest opinion to give? Heaven forbid! Above all things let us be well-bred and good humoured.

We have confined our remarks to the critics of the daily Press, not because they have in this matter a monopoly of courtesy and good humour—for in these qualities they are frequently surpassed by the critics of the weeklies, even those of a professed literary character—but because there are more of them. Worthy exceptions there are in both classes, but the rule is as we have intimated. We are constantly told with tiresome iteration that the *Golden Fiddlestick* is a work of rare merit, whose author brings to his task an extensive knowledge of his subject, the fruit of long research, a cultivated taste, a remarkable insight into the nature of men and things, together with a felicity and clearness of expression which can only proceed from an equal clearness of ideas, &c., &c. And to crown all and set for ever at rest all doubts of its excellence, we are informed that the book is peculiarly American in subject and treatment. In the next edition of his work, which, of course, is sure to follow, the ambitious Titbrush or Tootle prints all these hackneyed generalities in the latter pages of his wretched nonsense, and there they stand, a disgrace to journalism, a verbal caricature of the tastes of the age, a perennial self-assertion of stupidity. The consolation is that the next generation will never see them.

DISTRESSING CONSEQUENCES OF NEWSPAPER READING.

(From *All the Year Round*.)

WHAT can there be in the perusal of the daily journals and periodical literature in general to misguide men into tricks? It seems to have that effect. I never frequented a reading room without being annoyed by the little nervous habits of some of its visitors. One man will make a tremendous noise in his throat—not once or twice, which would matter very little, but at regular intervals, like a passing bell, and with much the same effect upon the nerves. It is impossible to help listening for its recurrence, and the difficulty of fixing the attention upon the page before one's eyes is very great under such circumstances. Another man will cross one leg over the other and swing it, with an effect quite dazzling to his neighbour; but the worst offender of all is the reader who has a trick of resting his toe on the ground, and causing his leg to vibrate in a distressing manner, of which I despair of conveying any idea unless you have suffered from the infiction. The more interested he gets in what he is reading the faster goes the limb, and you cannot defend yourself, as in the case of the swinging nuisance, by holding a broad sheet before your eyes, and so shutting him out of sight, for after a little time the vibration becomes perceptible over the whole room, until you might imagine yourself on board a steamer. Nay, it is far worse than the shaking caused by paddlewheel or screw, for that is so honestly violent that the system soon becomes accustomed to it; whereas the tremulous motion excited by the vibrating leg is of an irritating description ever young and fresh. A constant reader at our local Athenæum (who, indeed, almost lives there) has all these tricks and one more. On Wednesdays and Saturdays he collects the weeklies as they are brought in, and sits upon them while he studies the newspapers. Then he draws them out one by one, and reads them in a very leisurely manner. The committee have several times been appealed to to point out to him what a selfish and exasperating habit this is; but they insist on condoning his peculiarities because he is a learned man, and took a high degree at his university. But this is wrong. Tricks should surely count before honours.

NEWSPAPER READERS.

Of readers there are many and various classes; among these are the stupid, the miserly, the melancholy, the grumbling, the gay and festive, the literary epicure, and the appreciative. The first of these read without understanding, the mental man not following the thought or plan of the writer, but merely blundering along mechanically without sense or reason. This class of readers do not read much. They find no pleasure in knowledge, and it is too laborious work for them to try to obtain it.

The second class are like the man who took all medicines left in his house himself, after his wife's convalescence from a long illness, lest they might be wasted; he reads the whole paper through with exactness, commencing with the title and ending with the printer's mark at the close of the last advertisement on the fourth page. He pays for his paper, is anxious to get the worth of his money, and knows about as much as a parrot of what he has read after one of his perusals. This class of readers usually get their education by accident.

The melancholy reader, solemn as a starved owl, seeks his pleasure in death notices, obituaries, &c., and usually remembers enough of what he has read to bore others with the repetition of the same, with elongated, bilious countenance, and slowly wagging lantern jaws.

The gay and festive reader seeks only the accounts of balls, parties, marriages, bon mots, &c., and relishes exceedingly a good joke, no matter at whose expense the same is perpetrated. He is generally a good fellow, if not given to tap-room witticisms.

The grumblers are of that class who only seek for faults, and overlook all virtues in the search. These readers find fault with everything, either in the material, mental, or mechanical make-up of the paper. Their sole business is fault-finding. We do not like them, and neither does any one else, for the reason that their mission, if they have one, is to make everything appear unlovely, and in as bad a light as possible.

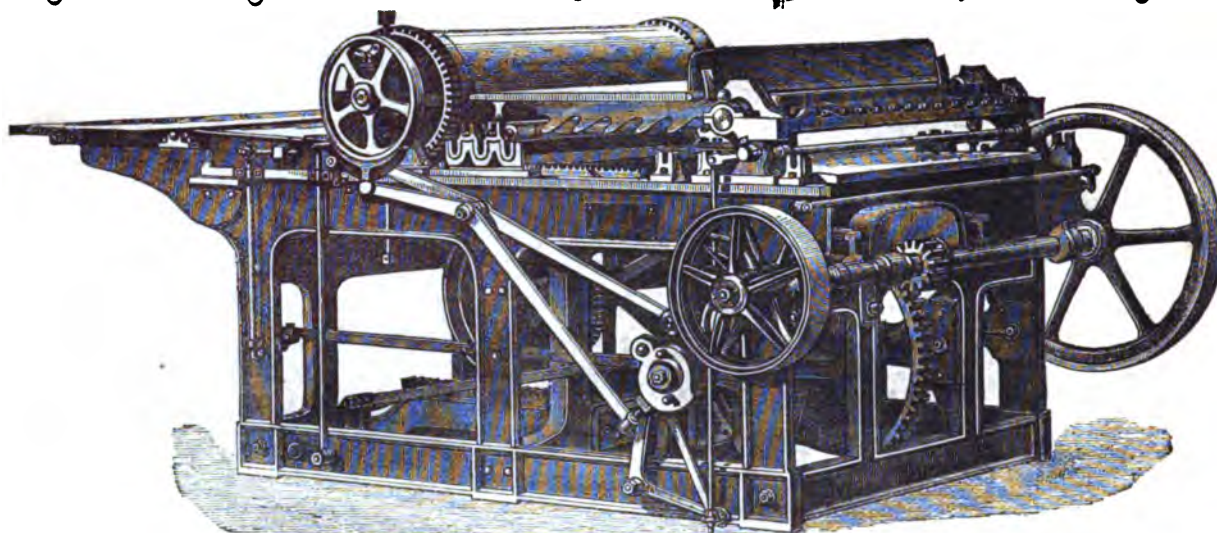
The literary epicure is a careful reader. He understands what he reads, and carefully stores away in the recesses of memory any really choice tit-bit he may find for future reference. He is sometimes disposed to censure a journal as insipid, but should recollect that all tastes are not like his own, and that most minds are content with coarser food than he chooses.

The appreciative reader has a knowledge of the labour requisite in making a readable paper. He understands and enters fully into the feelings expressed in every article. He likes his newspaper, and will not do without it. No matter whether an article favours his particular theories or not, he will read it, and, if possible, gain instruction therefrom. This class composes the readers that journalists like best, and are the real bone and sinew of society.—*American Paper*.

THE LONDON GERMAN PAPER, "HERMANN."

OUR German contemporary, the *Hermann*, ostensibly the organ of the Germans, resident in this city, was originally founded by the political refugee, Gottfried Kinkel, and subsequently transferred to Dr. Juch, who has now retired from the management, the proprietorship having just changed hands, and with it a change of principles has taken place. In the first number of the new series the editor publishes his programme and explains the line of politics that will in future be pursued. The paper having been founded for the edification and by the support of German patriots banished from their fatherland for their revolutionary acts and democratic tendencies, they were all more or less at variance with their respective Governments, and even the great events of 1866 were unable to reconcile them to the new order of things, though they were admitted to the privileges of the general amnesty for all political offences. The new management fully recognises the importance of the year 1866, which reorganised Germany as one great constitutional confederation of sovereign States. It promises to support the policy of Count von Bismarck, and at the same time protect the interests of the numerous Germans resident in England. Some alterations in the technical arrangements will be made as soon as circumstances will allow, but it will in future remain a weekly, and continue to be published every Saturday. S.

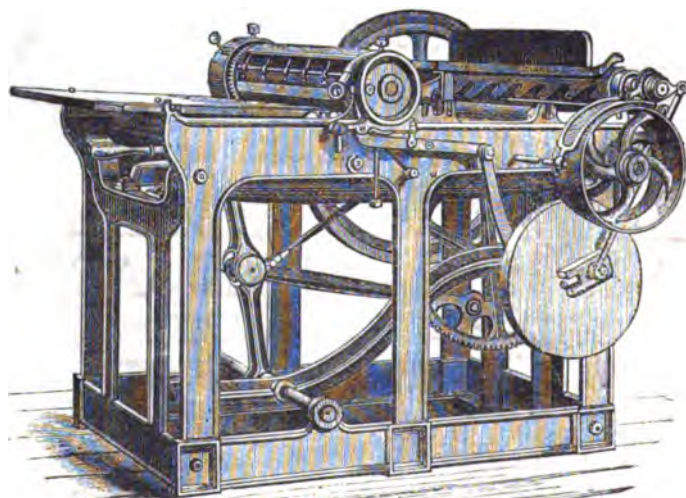
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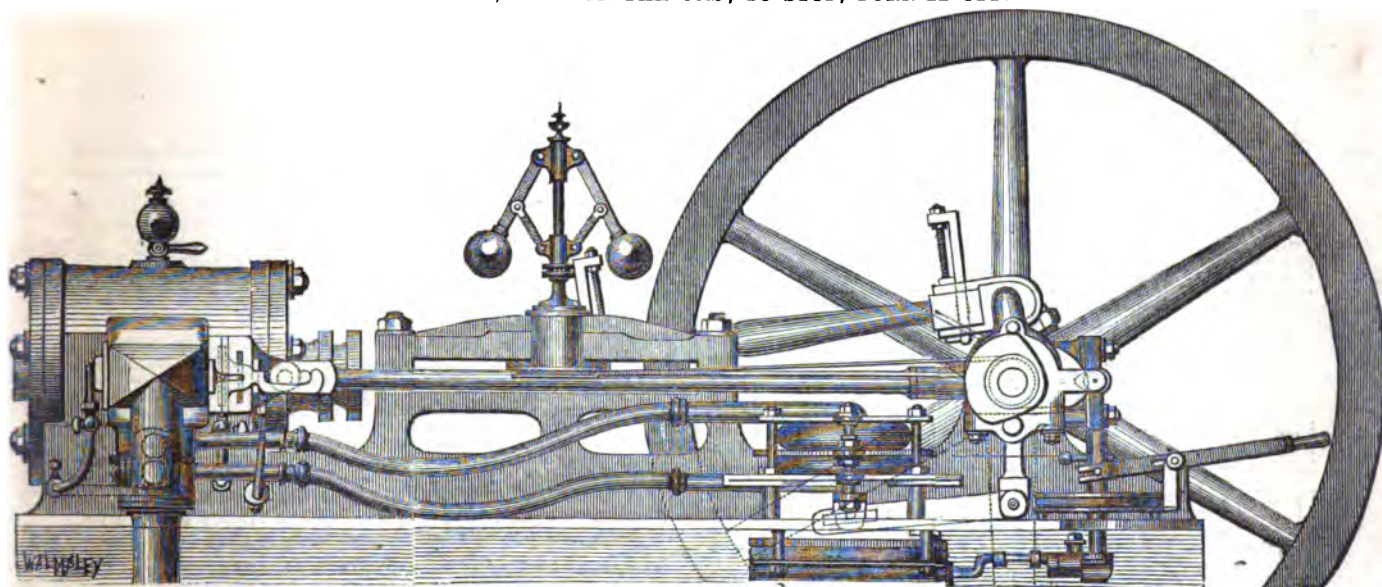
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lative Assembly as having been uttered by the Procurator General of the Court of Appeal at Riom, during the late Press prosecutions in open court, were not spoken at all. It is a certificate numerously signed by the persons who were present at the trial, proving the fact that the words attributed to M. Massin the Procurator General, and subsequently denied by the Minister, were really spoken by him in their hearing. M. Massin said "the tribunal of Clermont has been greatly wanting in foresight, intelligence, and prudence." These words, the document goes on to say, were heard and fully understood by the audience, and elicited deep murmurs of disapprobation. "The undersigned are now not repeating vague rumours, but simply what they themselves heard spoken in their presence, and they defy anybody to deny its truth and authenticity."

The retirement of M. Baudrillart from the chief editorship of the *Constitutionnel*, which has been repeatedly asserted, and as often denied, is again the subject of conversation in literary circles; and it is understood that he will be succeeded by M. d'Hugues, at present chief editor of the *Messager de Toulouse*.

A serious dispute has been going on for some time between the *Siccle* and the *Liberté*, in which the person of M. Ollivier is concerned, the complaint made against that gentleman being that as the legal adviser of the Suez Canal Company, he receives from them an annual salary of 50,000*f.* without doing anything to earn it. The dispute has now reached such a height, that M. Anatole de la Forge, who with M. Leon Plée officiates as joint chief-editor of the *Siccle*, has challenged M. Emile de Girardin, who, however, has declined to meet him, preferring to adhere to the resolution he made about a year ago, when he had the misfortune in his last duel to kill his adversary, M. Armand Carrel, editor of the *National*. It is said that the Emperor has given special instructions to the authorities throughout the country not to put forward any Government candidate in opposition to M. Emile Ollivier, wherever he may offer himself for election as member of the Legislative Assembly. *A propos* of the elections, which are to take place the end of May, the *Arénir* of Auch, publishes the text of the speech the Prefect of the Department of Gers made to the assembled mayors of the Centre of Masseube, and which is characteristic of the present state of Imperial France. "I recommend to you," he said to them, "M. Granier de Cassagnac as the official candidate. It may be that he has made mistakes, but to vote for him is to vote for the Emperor. There is, however, another candidate in the field—Jules Favre, a great orator, and a man of unexceptionable morality; but to vote for him would be tantamount to voting for a revolution."

The revival of public opinion in the provinces becomes every day more popular. A new liberal organ is about to be published at Poitiers, under the title of the *National de l'Ouest*. The *Journal de Colmar* has already appeared, and in its very first number given unmistakable proof of its intention to take its place in the ranks of those who demand the restoration of their lost liberties. At Besançon too, arrangements are being made for the publication of a new liberal paper. That town is not so exclusively military and clerical as not to contain a large proportion of democratic element. An organ of the popular interests was much wanted in that part of the country, and if properly conducted, will no doubt exercise considerable influence at the approaching elections.

M. Caron, the manager and Siebecker, editor of the *Réveil*, have been summoned before M. de Gonet, the *Juge d'Instruction*, to undergo a preparatory examination with reference to an article superscribed "The Court of King Populus," that appeared lately in that journal.

On the 10th inst., the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Pope's Marriage with the Church, the clerical journal *l'Univers* appeared with a festive coloured border, and related with evident self-complacency and pride, that the subscriptions collected on that occasion for the Pope by that zealous organ of the Catholic party amounted alone to 1,116,000*f.*

M. Clement Duvernois, now the popular journalist in the Government camp, has just given proof of the truth of the old adage "the favour of the Emperor renders bold," by publishing in his journal—*Le Peuple*—a circular address to the electors of the Upper Alps, for which department he is a candidate, assuring them that he still entertains the same liberal and democratic sentiments that have ever characterised his public life. This is "coming it rather strong," when it is well known that he is a poli-

tical renegade, and only last year abandoned the liberal party to become what he is now—one of the most obsequious followers, and for the time, apparently most zealous supporters of the Imperial party.

M. Louis Ariste, editor of the *Emancipation* of Toulouse, is again under prosecution on the charge of publishing an incorrect and offensive report of the proceedings of the late trial in the Court of Correctional Police.

A singular and romantic instance of the force of fraternal affection is recorded of a certain Amedée Gouet, on the staff of the *Siccle*, and author of a popular history of France. His brother was dying, and as he was determined not to survive him, he killed himself with a dagger. In the morning, the two brothers were found, as corpses, locked in each other's arms.

Rocheport continues his hostility towards M. Rouher, though with more *esprit* than good taste. What will your English readers think he deserves for the following piece of impertinence? "An acquaintance called on M. Rouher the other day, and inquired the cause of his singular paleness, to which His Excellency replied: 'I don't feel quite well; the fact is, I have not told any lies for the last three days.'" It is true that this trash is published in Belgium, where Rocheport is beyond the reach of the French Press law, but it cannot be prevented from being smuggled across the frontiers, and read with *gusto* by the enemies of the Minister. It is understood that Rocheport has been invited to come forward at the approaching elections as candidate for one of the metropolitan districts, and has had the audacity to accept it.

Another duel between two journalists of this city came off in the afternoon of the 17th inst., the parties engaged being M. Carle du Perrières, of the *Nain Jaune*, and M. Arthur Meyer, of the *Journal de Paris*, the latter insisting that they should go on firing till one of them was *hors de combat*. The first two shots that were exchanged missed, but the next one of M. du Perrières struck his adversary, the ball lodging in the hip-bone, from which it could not for some time be extracted. The wound, however, is not considered dangerous, and he is going on favourably, though it may be a long time before he is perfectly recovered.

I may mention here, as a curiosity, that a petition has been received by the Legislative Assembly, praying that in future the editors of all newspapers be elected by a *plebiscite* of all their subscribers for a year.

AVANT-COURIER.

In the course of a debate in the Corps Legislatif on the 3rd ult. M. Jules Favre assured the assembly that in 13 months' time there had been 118 Press prosecutions; fines had been inflicted to the amount of 135,000 *f.*, and the sentences of imprisonment amounted in the aggregate to nine years, one month, and twenty-three days.

M. Schneider, the President of the Corps Legislatif, has granted a tribute to the public Press.

One hundred and thirty-nine new journals were started in Paris in 1868. Of this number, only two have survived the sea of troubles into which such enterprises almost invariably are plunged.

Viscount de Calonne, chief editor of the *Révue Contemporaine*, was sentenced on the 6th ult. to a fine of 600 *f.* for having discussed the Constitution in an article published in his paper.

Our contemporary, the *Printers' Register*, says:—In opposition to the *Petit Journal*, an enterprising firm on the Quai Voltaire—Messrs. Poinet and Dalloz, the original printers of the *Moniteur Officiel*—publish *Le Petit Moniteur*, and have secured the assistance of the gentleman whom the readers of the *Petit Journal* knew under the name of Timothée Trimm, and who was the literary founder and chief support of that paper. His articles are the very thing to please the French public, that is, very amusing and slightly instructive, and fill a large amount of space with very little matter. The *Petit Moniteur* in its two editions gives two original contributions from M. Trimm, each day.

The *Petit Journal* has found a substitute for M. Trimm in a M. Thomas Grimm. It remains to be seen which is the better man. Messrs. Poinet and Dalloz also publish *La Petite Presse*, another halfpenny paper, the issue of which amounts to nearly 180,000 copies, and together with that of the *Petit Moniteur*, far surpasses that of the *Petit Journal*. They have about fifteen machines, ten of which are four-cylinder perfecting; and besides the above named papers, they print the *Gazette des Hospitiaux* and *Le Monde Illustré*; other newspapers and many books are printed by them.

Since the *Moniteur* became an independent paper, its circulation has increased by several thousand per day.

The proprietors of the Parisian Journal *Paris*, recently gave a concert to all their subscribers.

The editor of *Le Peuple*, a journal started in the interest of the Emperor two or three months ago, M. Clement Duvernois, a former collaborateur of Emile de Girardin, has been selected as an official candidate for one of the Upper Alps.

The *Etendard* notices the fact of its proprietor having been arrested on the charge of receiving the moneys stolen by M. Taillefer, the fraudulent cashier of the Union Insurance Company. It alleges that M. Taillefer, who appeared to act for third parties, had large sums at command, and that the proprietor of the *Etendard*, M. Pic, obtained advances from him, but had no idea the money was not honestly come by.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, April 26.

An interesting debate took place on the 17th inst. in the sitting of the North German Parliament, where a new Trades' Regulation Bill is being passed *seriatim*. The 41st paragraph was before the house, and the proposed text was as follows: "All persons selling, distributing, or sticking up newspapers or prints in public roads, streets, squares, or other public places, are required to be furnished with a permit from the local police authorities made out in the name of the bearer, who is bound to carry it about with him, and produce it when demanded. This permit can be retracted at any time." To this Herr Lasker moved the following amendment: "To strike out the words after 'required to be furnished,' and substitute, 'must give intimation of their intention to the police twenty-four hours previously, who will furnish them with a permit available for at least one year, and which cannot be refused to all above sixteen years of age. The authorities may demand inspection of this permit, and in case of refusal or non-existence of such certificate, may prevent the parties from exercising their calling.'" Von Schweitzer moved that the whole paragraph be struck out. Fries considered it superfluous, as such a regulation was already in operation in most of the Federal States. The Federal Commissioner Michaelis said the necessity of the legislation on the subject was shown by the delinquencies of the so-called "flying book-trade." Von Hennig opposed the paragraph, as he did all measures tending to shackle the Press. The police arrogated to itself the right of judging what was improving and what injurious to the education of the people, without either the legal right or the capacity to do so, the sole effect of which would be to draw the police into political agitations which had much better be avoided. He besought the house to reject the clause, and open the door to the freedom of the Press. Braun, of Wiesbaden, was also in favour of throwing open the flying book-trade, which was by no means a radical institution, as some members were inclined to believe. Bookstalls and newspaper vendors were to be found in every capital of Europe, and were not only tolerated, but protected. Wagener, of New Stettin, said it was obvious that the last speaker was not a professional journalist. He (Wagener), had gained much experience on the subject, and maintained that the liberation of the flying book-trade from all control would be very injurious to the Conservative Press. The public in Germany did not buy newspapers at railway stations, or in the streets, to assist them in their studies of political economy, but they bought the paper they were accustomed to read at home. After a reply from Lasker, and some other discussion, the paragraph was passed with Lasker's amendment.

In a former letter, I mentioned the hardship complained of by the proprietor of a local journal, published here and called the *Freischütz*. It was founded at the time that Weber's Opera of that name first appeared, and was named after it—that his paper is not allowed to circulate in the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg, Schwerin, the answer he received from the Post Office being that they undertook only to forward papers to the post-office of their destination, but were prevented by the local government from distributing the copies to the subscribers. In consequence of this the proprietor sent a petition to the Federal Parliament, praying for redress. The committee for petitions have found the complaint well founded, and have forwarded it to the Federal Council, with a strong recom-

mendation in its favour. It is, however, not very likely that the recommendation will be attended to.

On the 10th inst. three decisions on Press prosecutions were published by the Court of Justice, called the *Niedergericht*, of this city. By the first Herr Wilhelm Marr, as author of a series of offensive articles, called "Microscopic Studies," published in the *Montags-Nachrichten*, was acquitted, and the prosecutor condemned to pay costs; by the second, the same editor was convicted of an infringement of the Press law in four other articles in the above-named paper, and condemned to ten weeks' imprisonment and payment of costs; and by the third, Oscar Franz Reimann, the publisher of the same journal, and responsible for its contents, was found guilty of publishing libels in fifteen different numbers of the paper, and condemned to three months' imprisonment, payment of costs, and the obligation to publish *in extenso* all three findings of the court in his next impression.

The *Rheinische Zeitung* complains of the injustice of having had to suffer three times for other people's delinquencies. Not long ago it was prosecuted, and the paper seized, for reproducing an article from the *Berlin Volkszeitung*; again for an article copied from the *Westphälische Zeitung*, and now the third time for an article taken from the *Deutsche Volkszeitung*; in all which cases no notice was taken by the authorities, nor proceedings instituted against the three journals in which the incriminating articles originally appeared, but only when served up secondhand in the columns of the *Rheinische Zeitung*.

Herr J. F. Richter, proprietor and editor of the *Hamburg Reform*, has been convicted of a libel on Pastor Behrens, of this city, and condemned to pay a compensation of 6,000 marks banco (which the reverend plaintiff devotes to charitable purposes), payment of costs, and publication of the sentence in *extenso* in his journal. In his prosecution of Dr. Bonfort, editor of the *Hamburg Correspondent*, for alleged injurious remarks on the above case, Herr Richter was nonsuited, and dismissed with payment of costs. Another action has been brought against the same Richter for publishing an advertisement from a contractor, casting imputations of fraud on Inspector Wagemann, a Government functionary. Damages are laid at 300 marks currency.

Dr. Weichelt, editor of the *Hannoversche Landeszeitung*, has been condemned to three months' imprisonment for "offending majesty." He appealed against this sentence to the Upper Court at Nienburg, who have just given a decision confirming the sentence of the Inferior Court.

Hamburg was favoured last week with the official visit of the editor of the Saxon *Cameradliche Militairzeitung*, who combines with his editorial functions the duties of an inspector of police. It was in this latter capacity that he arrived here from Pirna to receive and convey home a mechanic arrested by the Hamburg police on a criminal charge, at the instance of the Saxon Government.

----- BAVARIA.

As a characteristic of the anti-national and radical Press in the South of Germany, it has just been discovered that the malicious articles that have lately filled the columns of the *Stuttgart Beobachter*, and teeming with personal attacks of the most disgusting kind were written by a member of the editorial staff of the "*Nurnberger Anzeiger*." It was this worthy who also, during the Prussian occupation in 1866, wrote those cynical letters in a Berlin paper, on the state of public feeling in Bavaria, that created some sensation at the time. Another editor of the same journal has been identified as the writer of a series of most offensive articles in a radical Frankfort paper, and is further ascertained to have been one of the editors of the notorious so-called "Black Book."

It having been stated in some of the South German papers that Dr. Altenhofer, whose resignation of the chief editorship of the *Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung* we mentioned in our last, had been dismissed in consequence of a disagreement on political matters between him and some of the proprietors of that journal, especially the Baron von Reisach, at Stuttgart, the learned doctor has published a declaration, refuting the assertion as one entirely void of foundation or truth.

On the 1st of April a change in the management of the Munich *Volksbote* was made. Dr. Sigl, who succeeded the fugitive, Dr. Zander, as editor, seceded with the intention of establishing a new

paper, and was replaced by Otto Byrn as chief editor; but scarcely had the latter been installed for a fortnight, when, on the 14th inst., he poisoned himself, and expired at his desk in the editor's room of that journal.

A new paper has been started at Augsburg as the organ of the Bavarian democrats. It is called the *Süd-Deutsche Post*, and is edited by a Herr Bogner.

SWITZERLAND.

On the 23rd ult. the walls of Geneva were covered with placards announcing a strike of the compositors and printers in that city. One of them was a proclamation of the International Association of Working Men, complaining that the tariff of wages had not been revised for nineteen years, though twice (in 1860 and 1868) attempts had been made. Another made on the 14th of February last terminated in an agreement that was accepted by most of the masters and workmen; but as some of the former still obstinately resisted, no alternative was left but a strike. Another is a declaration signed by thirteen heads of printing offices, and complains that the one-sided tariff attempted to be forced on them is too unequal to admit of being accepted. And finally, another placard contains a protest against the strike, signed by forty workmen, who allege that their employers had not been invited to attend the meeting, and were not represented there.

The *Journal de Genève* expresses a hope that both the authorities and the public will support and defend these independent fellows, who evinced their courage by their unwillingness to submit to the dictation of the International Association. In the meantime the Press and the public suffer great inconvenience from the strike, some of the papers having suspended their publication, and the *Suisse Radicale* containing only a half sheet.

Mrs. Marie Goegg, the wife of the notorious Baden fugitive demagogue, now publishes the *Journal des Femmes*, advocating the emancipation of the female sex and the rights of women. Her husband's paper, the *Felleisen*, written in the German language, has contrived to make itself so odious to the Austrian authorities that its conveyance through the post-office is prohibited.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

The responsible editor of the *Post och Inrikes Tidningar*, who was prosecuted by a colleague of the name of Damm, who is also an emigration agent, for an article showing up the fallacies contained in a pamphlet written by the latter, by which many Swedes are alleged to have been prevented from emigrating to the Brazils, has been acquitted.

The late Hans Abel Hjelm, whose death at Christiania is recorded in our Obituary, acquired considerable notoriety fifty years ago as the publisher and editor of the earliest Norwegian opposition paper, the *Nationalbladet*. The journal itself was, however, soon suppressed, as it was bought up by the late King Carl Johann, and the editor silenced by a handsome pension, which he enjoyed till his death at the ripe old age of seventy-six.

The Leipzig Correspondent states that a clergyman's daughter has recently obtained the royal licence to publish a weekly newspaper in Norrtelja, Sweden.

DENMARK.

The *Nyt Aftenblad* of Copenhagen states that the Danish novelist, M. Goldschmidt, is about to remove for good to England, having accepted an engagement under favourable conditions as *feuilletonist* on the staff of the *Times*. (?)

The *Kieler Zeitung* alludes to the fact that some of the Danish journals, among which are the Copenhagen *Dagbladet*, the Aarhus *Amtstidende*, and the *Koldingsposten*, whose circulation in Schleswig-Holstein during the late war was prohibited, are still under the ban; very properly remarking that such a measure may be considered justifiable in time of war, but there is no solid reason for its being continued five years after the proclamation of peace.

THE NETHERLANDS.

The First Chamber of the States General has now also passed the Bill for the abolition of the newspaper stamp by 24 votes to 12. The King having already given his royal assent to the Bill, all the difficulties are happily overcome, and the measure will come into operation the 1st of July next.

ROUMANIA.

At the late elections at Bukarest Herr Rosetti, editor of the official gazette *Romanul*, was in a minority, and is now no longer a member of the Roumanian Parliament.

ITALY.

Easter Sunday brought grief with it to divers small periodicals, which, under the name of newspapers, are simply organs of sedition and scandal. As you know, every city in Italy has its little Press, which, for impudent licence, exceeds anything of the kind existing elsewhere, and in which public and private reputations are assailed, and dragged into the mire in the most outrageous and reckless manner. The same state of things was observable among ourselves some thirty or forty years ago, but with the progress of freedom and the development of true journalism, we have outgrown these excesses, and the same will doubtless be the case in Italy, as she advances to years of discretion, especially if the authorities learn to despise these scurrilous and indecent prints, instead of whetting the public curiosity, as they are wont to do, by showing that they read and attach importance to them. It is well known that a seizure only partially restricts the sale of these so-called newspapers, and inevitably causes a greater demand for the succeeding number. As for the journals themselves, mere speculators upon the susceptibility of the public prosecutor, they are, from a moral point of view, without excuse, there being absolutely no limits whatever fixed for the public writer who observes anything like decency in the exercise of his functions; and it must be added, they meet with little sympathy, except in the ignorant and unthinking circles in which they find encouragement. The papers seized were the *Zenzero* (meaning ginger, and not gnat or mosquito, as some of my brother correspondents seem to think), the *Assino* and the *Messia*, with which I am totally unacquainted. What they can have said more outrageous than on other days, when they are allowed to pass unheeded, I am at a loss to imagine. Their chief hold upon the people must be attributed to their style, not altogether destitute of humour, and generally distinguished by a local raciness of flavour which, unhappily, our "respectable" Press seems incapable of acquiring.—*Standard Correspondence*.

A very curious political process, under the form of an action for libel, has lately commenced at Milan, the plaintiff being Count M. de Sonnaz, the King's chief huntsman, and the defendants the noted journalist and politician A. Battero and the responsible editor of the *Unita Italiana*, the official organ of the Mazzinian party. Owing to the slowness of all judicial proceedings in Italy, it frequently happens that when a case is brought on for trial, the facts in which it originated are almost entirely forgotten. It may, however, be in the recollection of some of your readers that about nine months ago a great stir was created by the statement, first published by the Milanese Republican organ, that no less than twenty-one persons had been shot, as trespassers, by the king's gamekeepers in an extensive piece of woodland, called the Tenuta di Tombolo, situate between Pisa and Leghorn, and which, after having been for a long space of time used as public ground, was recently enclosed and converted into a royal park. The charge certainly appears incredible upon the face of it, but it was originally preferred by influential persons holding property in the neighbourhood in which the alleged acts took place, and as several gentlemen of high standing in our political world are more or less implicated in the affair, the proceedings are likely to be followed with considerable interest. The case was opened on Wednesday, but at present nothing of any importance has transpired, the court being occupied with the discussion of mere preliminaries.

RUSSIA.

A curious incident took place shortly before the Grand Duke Nicholas's departure for the Caucasus. The editor of the *Noraja Vrainaya* published certain reflections on the military, which offended the officers of the Chevalier Garde to such a degree that they determined to show their resentment, and deputed one of their number to challenge the slanderer to single combat. The fire-eating *titérateur* accepted the challenge, nothing loth, but insisted that there should be but one pistol provided, for which the two combatants were to cast lots, and that they should be posted at a distance of five paces apart from each other. The officer was

at first inclined to refuse, but was overruled by his comrades, and passed, they say, three miserable days, eating nothing, until the affair came to the ears of the Grand Duke, who quickly put a stop to the whole business, and, what is more, compelled the fighting journalist to publish an abject apology in the columns of his own paper.

SPAIN.

The *Igualdad*, the Republican offspring of the liberty of the Press established by the Revolution, habitually indulges in such violent language that it seems puzzling the Government how to avoid prosecuting it, with a due regard to the public interest and the safety of society. It is a halfpenny paper, circulating principally among the working classes. Its editor is Signor Adolfo Joarizti, a Deputy of Cortes. He is a tall, thin, melancholy-looking man of about thirty-five.

Since the removal of the restrictions from the Press of Spain and Cuba, there has been a great newspaper revival; some thirty new ones having started in Havana, while fifteen have sprung up in Madrid.

EGYPT.

Two new papers have been added to the local Press at Smyrna. One is an Arminian paper, written with ability, and well printed. The other paper is in French, called the *Reforme*, and appears twice a week.

UNITED STATES.

New York, April 15th.

The following was the announcement of prices of the early numbers of the *Alta California*—the first flimsy apology for a newspaper printed in San Francisco, not more than twenty years ago:

	Terms.	Dols.
Subscription for one year in advance		1,200
Ditto for six months ditto		700
Ditto for three months ditto		400
Single copies		25

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.—For one square of twelve lines (or less), first insertion, 300 dols.; for every subsequent insertion (per square), 150 dols. Legal and official documents will be charged twice the above rates. All descriptions of book and job printing executed at the *Alta California* Office, neatly, promptly, and at reasonable rates. Office on Washington-street, Portsmouth-square.—GILBERT AND HUBBARD."

The original is before me as I write, and with it I find a note which I made at the time to the following effect:—"The first newspaper published in Virginia cost 50 dols. for a year's subscription. It was published weekly, and the charge for advertisements was 10 dols. the first insertion, and 7 dols. for each subsequent one."

I find in my collection the following cutting. Should any of the contributors to the NEWSPAPER PRESS be contemplating a history of American Journalism, these items might be of service:—"In 1857 the publishers of all the important papers in that State held a State Convention in San Francisco, and established a tariff of prices. They only pay—For composition, morning papers, each 1,000 ems, 1 dol. 50c.; for composition, evening papers, each 1,000 ems, 1 dol. 25c.; for composition, morning papers, per week, 50 dols.; job hands, 50 dols.; hand pressman, each token, 1 dol. 50c. Scale of wages of foreman: Morning newspaper offices, per week, not less than, 80 dols.; evening newspaper offices, per week, not less than 65 dols.; job offices, per week, not less than 60 dols.

Apropos of the *Alta California*, the following amusing anecdote is told by Mr. Dilke in his new book:—"In its early days the *Alta California* once appeared with a paragraph which ran:—'I have no VV in my type, as there is none in the Spanish alphabet. I have sent to the Sandvich Islands for this letter; in the meantime, vve must use tvvo V's.'"

A new paper is announced under the title of the *Imperialist*, to advocate a monarchical form of Government.

According to the *New York Express*, the *Tribune* divided 180,000 dols. among its subscribers in 1868, and its aggregate profits during the year are said to have been a quarter of a mil-

lion of dollars; and the *Sun* says that the shareholders have insured Greeley's life for 100,000 dols., the premiums to be taken out in advertising.

Another newspaper office—that of the *Kingwood Journal*—has been burned down, but the paper goes on. The office of the *State Record*, Topeka, Kansas, and several adjoining buildings, were destroyed by an incendiary fire on the 8rd inst.

The *Charleston Mercury*, after an existence of half a century, has become defunct.

Several new periodicals are afloat: The *Jewish Times*, part in English and part in German, published in New York; *L'Idée Nouvelle*, Burlington, Vt., in French and English, alternate columns; the *Fireman's Journal*, Brooklyn, N.Y., an illustrated semi-monthly; and Dietz's *Experimental Farm Journal*, Chambersburg, Pa.

Mr. Manton Marble has purchased the interest of all the proprietors in the *World* of this city, and is now the sole proprietor of that paper.

The Georgian legislature has refused to expend 25 dols. for the proper accommodation of the reporters of the public Press, who consequently sit in the lobbies.

An "Associated Press" has been organised between nine journals of Kansas and six of Missouri.

P. Gray Meek, editor of the *Bellefonte Watchman*, has been found not guilty in a suit brought against him for libel of the Dickinson Seminary.

A new Democratic paper, to be issued daily, tri-weekly, and weekly, is prospected in Toledo, Ohio. J. C. Loveland & Co. will be the publishers, while Samuel Pike, well-known in the newspaper profession, will have charge of the editorial department.

Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, has four newspapers—three dailies and one weekly. On the 4th of July, 1867, it consisted of but one house.

I reported to you a month or two since a meeting of Pennsylvania editors, at Bellefonte, for the purpose of forming an editorial association. The association met at Harrisburg on the 2nd of February, and a large number of editors attended. Committees and officers were appointed, and rules made. The following was the first resolution passed:—"That the Editorial Convention of Pennsylvania recommend such an amendment to the present law of libel in the State of Pennsylvania, as will admit of the truth being given in evidence." The next resolution caused much discussion. It was to the effect "that the association recommend the passage of an act authorizing the publication of all general laws in all the *bonâ fide* newspapers in the State, and that all local laws must be published in the papers of the county or district to which the law specially applies."

Mr. Braggins said a live paper would always give the substance of the law to its readers, without the money of the State. He was opposed to the whole thing.

Mr. Miller said he had published a paper for years, asked the State for no money, and was getting rich on it. If gentlemen believe honestly in economy, let them vote this down, as he would do for his part.

Mr. Durban said, if it be well for the people to know the law, let the people pay for it; it was true economy.

Mr. Wells said he was astonished to hear this measure deliberately proposed. It would bind us hand and foot, and leave us in the hands of the legislature to be crucified. At the very time that the demand for economy comes to us from every corner in the State, it is proposed to take action, looking toward the distribution of the public money among the newspapers of the State. He protested against the whole thing. It would be a sacrifice of much of the influence which the Press now possesses (which is not what it ought to be), and he recommended the representatives of the Press to consider well before they take such a position. He again protested, in the name of Pennsylvania journalism.

Mr. Sypher thought, with the preceding speaker, that this whole matter ought to be laid on the table. We want first to know what the publication of the law costs now, and what it will cost on the proposed plan. It now costs 20,000 dols., and any citizen of the State can obtain the volume containing them for 1 dol.; thus 8,000 dols. of the expense come back to the treasury, if so many persons desire copies of the laws. Giving each of the 450 newspapers 100 dols.—a small sum—will make the figures over

45,000 dols.; and at the lowest of the usual prices for advertising, it would run up to 135,000 dols.

Finally the whole matter was ordered to lie on the table.

The third resolution was read as follows:—"Resolved, that a committee of seven be appointed for the purpose of reporting a scale of prices for advertising."

This led to some opposition, several gentlemen objecting to any interference of this body with the right of publishers to make their own prices.

Mr. Wells thought this was the most impracticable thing we had tried yet, about equal to establishing a committee to regulate the price of horses. The price of advertising, like that of other things, is regulated by its value, which is different in different papers; you can get what it is worth, and no more. He thought it would be more practical to try to have publishers adhere to their own prices as published.

The resolution was voted down.

After some discussion on the commission of advertising agents, some trifling personalities and a little horseplay ensued, and "several members commenting sharply upon the disorder in the hall, Mr. Wells said some allowance must be made for the editors; first, considering where we are; then, it is the first time we have been here in a collective capacity; besides, editors are a hard-working class, having a holiday but seldom, and a little extra hilarity did not materially interfere with the grave duties of the convention." The "American Newspaper Press Directory" is out—you will receive a copy per next ship. SOL.

A BORDER EDITOR.—The editor of the Owyhee *Avalanche*, by way of describing his agreeable vocation, as conductor of a frontier paper, makes the following interesting reflections:—"O, the felicity of editing a paper!—Charming, agreeable, in a horn! Fascinating, attractive occupation, but so difficult to appreciate. How nicely and smoothly one gets along without an 'onpleasantness!' For instance, in a recent issue we referred directly to a ruffian known as Captain Prescott, and incidentally to a guerilla named Al. Cage. We did this in justice to ourselves and the community at large. The other day, while quietly seated in our sanctum, taxing our brain for more copy, in response to the everlasting cry of the 'devil,' the two above-named villains, one of them armed with a hatchet, and the other with a bowie-knife of large dimensions, made a violent attack upon our person. The only alternative was to fight or die. We accordingly seized a large knife, about two feet long, used for cutting paper, and bled our assailants pretty freely. They sued for mercy. We spared their worthless lives, and told them to dust, and they got up and dusted. We would take this occasion to state that if they or any one else attack us with the intention of doing us bodily harm, we will shoot them dead in their tracks, or cut their throats from ear to ear."

AN ENTERPRISING REPORTER.—The enterprise of newspaper reporters at Washington has always been famous. The following story was told lately in the "Correspondents' Club," which has been formed in that city:—"At the funeral of the late General Baker, which was held in the White House, the correspondent of a New York journal, unable to get a ticket of admission, got down through a coal-hole, and after groping his way, reached at last the East Room, directly in the rear of the officiating clergyman. While the clergyman was engaged in prayer, the reported observed a roll of paper in his hat. To seize it and fly was the work of a moment. When the clergyman turned to find his sermon, he found it not. He attempted to deliver his remarks from memory, but made a wretched failure of it, much to the astonishment of the dignitaries who were present. The next morning he had the satisfaction of reading his discourse in the *New York Herald*."

The *Rocky Mountain Herald* heads its columns of humorous and other paragraphs "Noodle Soup."

The *Centralia* (Ill.) *Sentinel* heads its column of news, "Steal Pen and Scissors."

NEW PAPERS.—Oneida *Journal*, Oneida, Ill. (weekly), W. S. Bush publisher, A. G. Ellsworth editor; Selma *Press*, Selma, Ala. (weekly), James Shaw and Co. publishers, contains seven columns, is neatly printed, and conducted with ability; *Daily Carolina Observer*, Charlotte, N.C., Smith, Watson, and Co. publishers; it is handsomely printed, well edited, and deserves success; *Daily Whig*, Knoxville, Tenn.; *Linn County Hawk-Eye*, Mt. Vernon,

Iowa (weekly); *Lansing Enterprise*, North Lansing, Mich. (weekly).

ENLARGEMENTS.—The *West Union* (Iowa) *Gazette* has been enlarged and considerably improved in its mechanical appearance; the *Western Vindicator*, Rutherfordton, N.C., has been considerably enlarged and improved; the *Journal*, Indianola, Iowa, is now an eight-page paper; the *Mercer* (Pa.) *Dispatch* has been enlarged to an eight-column sheet, and presents a very neat appearance; the first number of the twenty-eighth volume of the *Cecil Democrat*, Elkton, Md., appears considerably enlarged.

SUSPENSIONS.—*Railway Advance*, Hays City, Kansas; *Gazette*, Buffalo, N.Y.; *Constitutional Union*, Washington, D.C.; *Home Weekly*, Philadelphia; *Weekly Patriot*, Philadelphia.

A thief stole the entire wardrobe, linen and all, of the editor of the *Wellsville Union* a few nights ago. It was shrewd of him to come at night, though, for he must have been well aware that, being an editor, *they were on his back in the daytime*. The thief has been acquitted, the goods being under the value of two dollars. The editor is content, and says his subscribers take care of *his money*, and he'll defy thief or devil to get *that*. Subscribers are the best "Hobbs" and "Holdfasts" in the States. "All my bankers," writes another editor boastfully, "take my paper. For a man without capital they are rather numerous, for at least 700 of my subscribers keep my cash. What a fund is accumulating in my bankers' hands to develop my paper! Jee-roosalum!"

The number of newspapers in the Southern States is as follows:—Texas, 114; Louisiana, 84; Alabama, 87; Arkansas, 43; Florida, 23; Georgia, 93; North Carolina, 65; South Carolina, 67; Kentucky, 79; Mississippi, 76; Tennessee, 92.

New York has newsboys who make 15 dols. to 18 dols. per week.

A ball was given at Red Bud, Illinois, the proceeds to be used "to establish a weekly newspaper."

The *British Mail*, to be made up of clippings from English journals, is a new weekly contemplated at Chicago.

AUSTRALIA.

The proprietor of the *Newcastle Pilot* has recovered £5 damages against the proprietor of the *Newcastle Chronicle* for inserting a libel, said to be copied from the *Australian Protestant Banner*.

The *Queanbeyan Age* descants in the following doleful strain:—"The dulness and expression experienced in all branches of trade and business during the past few years have affected none more severely than newspaper proprietors. The praiseworthy endeavour to reduce expenditure has in the case of many private individuals extended to dispensing with the "luxury" of a newspaper—for a time, at least; and in the case of business men led them to curtail their advertising expenses. We are not disposed to enter into the question of the expediency or otherwise of this course. It is enough to know that such is the case. With the newspaper proprietor it has also, from these circumstances, become a matter of necessity to practice the most rigid economy; though not from the above reasons alone; but because, in the general scarcity of money, a smaller proportion has fallen to his lot than to those whose items of receipt are separately much larger, notwithstanding that their claims on the whole may be much less. We have as many hundreds of supporters as other branches of business have tens; and to lie for years out of a large bulk of our just claims, as in the case, must result in discouragement, if not in ultimate ruin. Our business is not such as, in its best prosperity, would leave a margin of profits tending to wealth; but with an undue proportion of arrears extending over years, it may involve us in hopeless liability. To meet the cases of those who are indebted to us, we have tried various experiments. We have accepted bills, and many of these have been dishonoured; we have proposed payment in produce, but with little success; in a few of the worse cases we have resorted to law, obtained judgments, and in the hope of avoiding more painful measures, waited long for payment, but in vain. Hitherto no appeal, no argument, no method proposed or adopted to facilitate or enforce payment, has had the least effect in certain cases. We have, therefore, at last come to the conclusion of submitting to all our constituents the foregoing facts, hoping that a plain statement of these matters may appeal successfully to reason and the sense of justice on the part of those who are most in arrears, and urge them, if by any means they can, to discharge without further delay a debt they owe of gratitude

for our forbearance and of money for our goods and services. We are still prepared to accept any reasonable arrangements calculated to hasten and ensure the settlement of all outstanding accounts; and we trust our accommodating disposition will not be disregarded. Our accounts up to December 31st are now being rendered. In the course of the present month we have several heavy liabilities to meet—not one of which would have existed had we only received our just dues with reasonable promptitude. We therefore urge immediate payment in every possible case, and for which we will tender our warmest thanks.

At Melbourne they have established the *Sin Kin Shan Kin Sze Pien Luh* which signifies in the "Barbarian," or vulgar tongue, the *Australian Record of New Occurrences*. It is described as an excessively modest little journal, lithographed on a sheet of foolscap, and published weekly at 6s. per quarter.

A new paper, the *Daily Telegraph*, an Independent Liberal morning newspaper, price 1d., was started at Melbourne, on February 8th. It is a double royal sheet, and comprises a considerable amount of original matter, as well as judicious selections of local news and extracts.

In the Legislative Assembly on the 16th February, on the order of the day that the House go into Committee of Supply. Mr. Burns moved as an amendment a resolution affirming the desirability of repealing the Newspaper Postage Act during the present session. He spoke at some length in favour of the motion, pointing out the inconvenience attending the enforcement of the postage rate on newspapers. Mr. Samuel objected to the motion as obstructive, and urged that the Government ought to be left to deal of its own motion with the revenue. Mr. Piddington defended the Act, and considering the distance the papers were carried at the low charge of one penny, thought subscribers to newspapers had no ground to complain of the rate. Mr. Garrett spoke in opposition to the Postage Act, but recommended the withdrawal of this motion. Mr. Burns asked leave to withdraw the amendment, but as this was objected to by Mr. Samuel, it was put to the House and negatived without division.

CUBA.

We have in a former issue given a cursory review of the numerous publications which sprung into existence in Havana on the promulgation of the decree abolishing the censorship. As the decree was published and took effect before the legal remedies for wrongs which might accrue had been made known, the subsequent announcement of these has acted like a wet blanket upon the aspirations of the numerous injudicious publications that sprung into existence, which, under no condition of affairs, could be other than ephemeral; and the result has been a subsidence in the new publication fever as sudden as was its access. A large number of worthless little sheets have been suspended and their places have been taken by a more formal class of journals—some already issued and others about to appear. Among these we notice *La Democracia*, a Spanish republican journal, and *La Voz del Pueblo*, an organ of one of the Cuban cliques. The publication of *La Verdad* (a respectable Cuban journal) and of *La Voz de Cuba* (a Spanish liberal journal) is continued. With these and one or two others known to be in preparation the city of Havana is likely to be well supplied with new exponents of public opinion.

The following circular has been addressed by the Captain General to the Fiscal of the Press:

GENERAL DULCE'S WARNING TO THE PRESS.

I have remarked with much displeasure the attacks made by various journals against the integrity of the national territory, tending to deteriorate the good name of the Spanish nation. It is impossible that such a mode of proceeding, as scandalous in form, as significant in its spirit, does not recognise a cause which is indispensably necessary to destroy, if the liberty of the Press, which, in other countries, is the element of civilization and progress, has no other object in the province of Cuba but to act as the tool of bastard passions, and thus render itself a medium of insult, injury, and calumny.

You will bear in mind that without any excitement, and obeying a sentiment of reparation and justice, the provisional Government was the first to proclaim the savior principles of the September revolution. These principles are its banner, and it will never

allow that a "handful of traffickers in ideas" shall abuse such a holy right as that of the free emission of written thought.

The penalty indicated by the decree of the provisional Government is that of the code, and, in fault of this, that of the *partida*.

Every word offensive to the dignity of the nation, every phrase that directly or indirectly attacks the integrity of the national territory, every article or paragraph tending to favour the cause of the insurrection, are so many crimes punishable by the laws, that are subject to the decision of the courts, that you, in the fulfilment of your duties, are bound to prosecute and denounce.

In the first place, the parties responsible for these delinquencies are the authors or managers of the paper; secondly, the editor; and, thirdly, the printer.

I therefore definitely charge you, display the utmost zeal in the performance of your functions, &c., &c., &c. DOMINGO DULCE.

Havana, Jan. 29, 1869.

Advertisers' Gazette.

JAMAICA.

AN OPEN-HEARTED JOURNAL.—The *Colonial Standard and Jamaica Despatch*, says: "As the perusal of numerous English and foreign newspapers which we receive may afford our contractors and subscribers the occasion of spending a leisure moment agreeably, we have made arrangements to keep our files of such papers always open at our office for their accommodation, and they are invited to avail themselves of this arrangement, as often as they may be disposed to do so, free of charge."

THE FIJI ISLANDS.

"FIJIAN WEEKLY NEWS."—Mr. T. Johnson, late of Westport, who was the publisher of the *Fijian Weekly News*, has stopped the publication, for a time at least, as being in advance of the requirements of the settlement.

NEW ZEALAND.

PRINTERS AND NEWSPAPERS REGISTRATION ACT.—Very general dissatisfaction is expressed with this Act. Even the Government organ thinks it too severe—a sign that the Government organ feels it has gone too far. The *Timaru Herald*, in an article on Wednesday last, exposes the inquisitorial nature of the Act most completely.—*Christchurch Star*.

Mr. Vogel's solicitors have written to the proprietor of the *Wellington Advertiser*, demanding an apology for the publication of a leading article on January 20 relative to the refusal by the Provincial Government of Otago to give advertisements for the sale of educational reserves to the *Times*.

CHINA.

Newspapers in China are circulated from hand to hand after being copied by clerks. It is now proposed to establish an extensive press and type foundry at Suchow, and adopt the foreign mode of printing.

A NEWSPAPER Printing and Publishing Company (limited) has been registered for the purpose, we believe, of starting several new weeklies in Lancashire. Warrington is to be the headquarters.

MELANCHOLY SUICIDE.—Mr. John Simpson, formerly a reporter on the *Nottingham Daily Express*, and subsequently sub-editor of the *Manchester Courier*, committed suicide on the 11th ult. The deceased gentleman had been about a fortnight in Nottingham, and the last few days lodged at the Oliver Cromwell Inn. It was noticed on the Friday previously that he was depressed in spirits, but on Saturday he assumed his usual gaiety, playing at whist with some of the company in the evening. He retired at midnight, and not making his appearance at the usual hour in the morning, the landlord sent his son to call him. The deceased replied that he was getting up. At one o'clock the landlord became alarmed, as Mr. Simpson had not come down stairs. He then went into his bed-room, and there discovered the unfortunate gentleman dead. In one hand he held a handkerchief, upon which he had vomited; the other hand was placed under his head. A bottle was found under the bed with the label scratched off. The bottle it is supposed had contained poison, and very little doubt was entertained that Mr. Simpson had committed suicide. The unfortunate gentleman has left a wife and three children.

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—APRIL 15.

(Before the LORD CHIEF BARON and BARONS BRAMWELL and CLEASBY.)

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL V. BRADLAUGH.

This was an information, filed at the instance of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, against Mr. Charles Bradlaugh, the proprietor and publisher of the *National Reformer*, *Secular Advocate*, and *Free Thought Journal*, for not having made a declaration of proprietorship, registered his name and address, and given securities against the publication of libels. The trial took place at Westminster, before Mr. Baron Bramwell, and resulted in a verdict for the Crown on several counts, with the penalties imposed by the statute.

Mr. Bradlaugh now moved to enter a verdict for himself or for a new trial on several grounds, the principal being that the publication in question was not a newspaper within the meaning of the act. The Court granted a rule nisi upon that and some other grounds.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S COURTS.—APRIL 22.

(Before VICE-CHANCELLOR MALINS.)

THE GREAT CONVENT CASE.

Mr. Glasse, Q.C. (with whom was Mr. Macnaghten), moved to commit the publishers of two newspapers, the *Weekly Register* and the *Eastern Morning News and Hull Advertiser*, for a contempt of Court, in the publication by the former of certain severe comments upon the conduct of Miss Saurin in filing a bill against the Sisters of the Hull Convent for a distribution of the convent property, and in the reproduction of the same by the latter as extracts. The first of these articles was copied from the columns of the *Weekly Register* into the *Eastern Morning News and Hull Advertiser*, the source from whence it was taken being duly acknowledged. With regard to the first motion, against the *Weekly Register*, he (Mr. Glasse) was happy to say that the very respectable paper which was represented by his friend, Mr. Bury, was willing to make an apology now, to insert a proper notice in their paper of the same, and to pay the costs of the present application.

Mr. Bury, on behalf of the publisher of the *Weekly Register*, having acceded to this,

The Vice-Chancellor said he thought it was a most proper course to adopt.

Mr. Martineau appeared for Mr. Hunt, the publisher of the *Eastern Morning News and Hull Advertiser*, on whose behalf he was willing to express regret for having inadvertently reprinted the article. It was done in the ordinary course of business, the source of it being pointed out; and if the plaintiff was willing to make an end of the matter in that way, he (Mr. Martineau) was quite prepared to submit to an order similar to that made by Lord Hatherley in the Tichborne Baronet case, where his lordship had made no order as to costs against the papers which had merely reprinted an extract, but had condemned the paper in which the article (the subject of the motion) had originally appeared to pay the costs of the application.

Mr. Glasse declined to agree to any proposition which did not include the payment of the costs.

The Vice-Chancellor said he had recently made an order in a case in which he had to consider all that Lord Hatherley said in the Tichborne case; and his impression was that his lordship's decision on that point rather depended upon consent than upon any adjudication of the Court. It appeared to him that a newspaper which copied an article of this sort must do it at its own peril. The article complained of, published originally in the *Weekly Register*, is clearly of a most improper character, and calculated seriously to impede the administration of justice. This has been so strongly felt by the proprietors of that paper, that they have, with great propriety of feeling, appeared by their counsel, Mr. Bury, and at once made an unconditional surrender—offering to pay the costs of the motion, to make an apology to the Court, and, as far as they can, to put the plaintiff, Miss Saurin, in the same position that she would have been in if the article had never been

published. With regard to the proprietor of the *Eastern Morning News*, which is a local penny newspaper published every morning at Hull, undoubtedly the position of the proprietor of that paper is very different, because he is not the author of the article; but he adopts the course which is very common with these local newspapers, namely, to copy, from London and other newspapers, passages that they think are of public interest. But it is of the highest importance that the proprietors of all newspapers should know that those who conduct the publication of them must exercise proper discretion, and that if they find articles of an improper character—such as this article in the *Weekly Register* undoubtedly was—they must reprint them and republish them at their own peril. I am unable to accede to the general proposition that a newspaper which merely reprints that which has been originally published by another newspaper can do it with impunity, if an application is made to this Court; and that because Lord Hatherley (I think rather because the matter was not pressed) took the course which has been referred to in the Tichborne case, therefore those who merely copy and reprint are not to pay the costs. I am perfectly satisfied from the affidavit of Mr. Hunt that he had no improper motive. I think he has acted in a highly honourable manner, and in a manner becoming a gentleman, in the apology he made on the Monday after receiving the notice, and by his counsel at the bar to-day. But I am bound, at the same time, to say that in republishing this article he went rather beyond the usual course of reprinting, when he headed it with these large letters, "Miss Saurin and the Hull Convent," because that was calculated to attract the attention of all the reading public at Hull to the article; and I think no person unacquainted with the law could read the article without having a prejudice excited in his mind against the plaintiff, Miss Saurin. Therefore, unquestionably, he has been—unconsciously, I am quite sure, and unintentionally—guilty of that impropriety which this Court cannot pass altogether unnoticed.

Some discussion then took place as to the costs, and ultimately his Honour ordered the defendants to pay the costs of all the proceedings up to Saturday, and the costs of the present application.

At the Liverpool Assizes, the case of *Hains v. The Wigan Newspaper and Printing Company, Limited*, was heard. Mr. Holker, Q.C., and Mr. McConnell were the counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Higgin, Q.C., was for the defendants. The learned counsel said that the plaintiff was the incumbent of St. George's, Wigan, and he brought the action for a series of libels published upon him in a newspaper of the defendants—the *Wigan Examiner*. The plaintiff was a strong politician, a Liberal, and supporter of Mr. Gladstone, while the paper in question was owned by a number of Conservative gentlemen in and around Wigan. The articles complained of were comments on Mr. Hains' conduct and motives, and he felt himself bound to bring this action in order to vindicate himself from the charges made. At the close of the learned counsel's opening, Mr. Higgins said that he appeared to represent the defendants, who desired to say through him that they had no intention to reflect on the character of the plaintiff. It would be observed that most of the libels read were either reports of speeches, or the opinion of others conveyed in letters or extracts, and this gave strength to an apology which had already appeared in the impression on the 20th of March, which stated that they were the statements and opinions of others, which the defendants had no grounds for supposing were true, and expressed their regret that they should have received circulation through their columns. He desired to repeat that apology on the part of his clients in court, and it being accepted by the plaintiff, a verdict was taken for 40s.

EDITORS IN THE FAR WEST.—Till I had seen the editors' rooms in Denver, Austin, and Salt Lake City, I had no conception of the point to which discomfort could be carried. For all these hardships, payment is small and slow. It consists often of little but the satisfaction which it is to the editor's vanity to be "liquored" by the best man of the place, treated to an occasional chat with the governor of the territory, to a chair in the Overland Mail office whenever he walks in, to the hand of the hotel proprietor whenever he comes near the bar, and to a pistol-shot once or twice a month.—*Dilke's "Greater Britain."*

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. H. L. KEMP.

We regret to notice the death of Mr. Henry Latimer Kemp, editor of the *Derby Mercury*, at about eight o'clock on Tuesday evening, the 30th ult. Mr. Kemp had not been well for a considerable time, and during the week in which the Spring Assizes were held, was very ill indeed. On the 3rd of March, which was in the assize week, he attended a Conservative dinner at Newhall, and it was on that occasion that, as he believed, he took fresh cold, in consequence of which he was compelled on the following Tuesday evening, after having kept at his post for some days, to leave business earlier than usual, and from that time he became worse from day to day, and, sinking gradually, died at the end of three weeks.

The late Mr. Kemp was a native of Birmingham, but early qualifying himself for newspaper work, he became a reporter on the *Manchester Guardian*. Subsequently he returned to Birmingham, where he was a reporter, and for some time sub-editor of the *Birmingham Daily Press*, which paper died about ten years ago, when he left Birmingham to join the staff of the *Derby Mercury* as reporter, Mr. Gurney Patmore being at that time the editor. Mr. Patmore shortly afterwards left for Australia to fill the position of one of the editors of the *Melbourne Argus*; and thereupon Mr. Kemp was promoted to the sub-editorship, the editorial department being shared between the late Mr. Newbold himself and Mr. John Hickling. Mr. Kemp has been the responsible editor ever since the demise of Mr. Newbold. Throughout his whole career on this journal, but more particularly in the earlier part of it, Mr. Kemp's zeal and ability in discharging his onerous duties were most remarkable, while his genial manners and ready wit won him many admirers, as well among gentlemen opposed to him in politics as among those of the Conservative party. His writings were distinguished by a pointedness and perception which could hardly be excelled, and though of late, in consequence of the pressure of many duties, he hardly achieved the same high standard as formerly, yet he was always pithy, sensible, and trenchant.

Besides being editor of the *Derby Mercury*, Mr. Kemp edited the *Derbyshire Red Book*, and was the author of a work on the "Derby Charities," and several pamphlets.

Mr. Kemp was interred at the New Cemetery, Nottingham-road, the funeral being attended by his father and two brothers, by Mr. J. W. Newbold, Mr. H. H. Bemrose, Mr. Edward Gamble, Mr. H. Adams, Mr. J. Smith, and Mr. B. Bryan. We regret to say that Mr. Kemp's widow and two children are unprovided for.

Home Subjects.

AN ASSISTANT EDITOR.—A pair of scissors.

A Mr. JOHN COOKSON has been fined by one of the London police magistrates 3s. 6d. for selling newspapers on Sundays.

MR. BAILEY'S LIBEL BILL passed its second reading on the 18th ultimo.

MR. WM. GILBERT, author of "Shirley Hall Asylum," &c., is to be the new editor of "Tinsleys' Magazine."

A second Conservative paper, called the *Radcliffe*, has just been started at Oxford.

The *Whitchurch Herald* is the name of a new weekly newspaper, just issued by Mr. B. B. Jones, Whitchurch, Salop.

The caricatures of "Our Statesmen," and "People of the Day," publishing weekly in *Vanity Fair*, are said to be by Mr. Pellegrini, an Italian gentleman resident in England.

ANOTHER NEW CONSERVATIVE weekly penny paper "for the million," appeared on the 10th ultimo, under the title of the *Britannia*.

BLANCHARD JERROLD, editor of *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper*, is making up a report for the Poor Law Board on the condition of the poor in France and Belgium.

A new penny weekly paper is announced, under the title of the *Protestant*, which promises to be "Anti-Romanist, anti-Ritualistic, anti-Rationalist."

CIRCULARS have been issued by two or three companies, propos-

ing to collect and forward news to the provincial Press on the transfer of the telegraphs to Government.

"THE CROYDON ADVERTISER AND EAST SURREY REPORTER" is a new penny weekly, the only one printed entirely in Croydon. Its politics are Liberal, but its reports (which are mainly of local events), are decidedly impartial. Mr. Jesse W. Ward is the proprietor.

NEW LITERARY ORGAN.—The want of a thoroughly impartial literary and critical paper has been so long felt, that we hear with pleasure that arrangements are in progress for a new journal which shall deal with new works strictly according to their merits. The new paper will not appear before September next.

THE "VICTORIA GAZETTE" is the title of a very excellently got-up local paper, "established to advocate Constitutional and Protestant principles in Kensington, Chelsea, Notting Hill, Fulham, and Hammersmith," which appears to be some six months old, but No. 22 of which has only this month reached us. Unlike the majority of the penny "locals," it does not appear to be simply a trap to catch advertisements, but is a really well-written paper.

MR. JAMES B. MANSON, editor of the *Edinburgh Daily Review*, was found dead in his study lately. His pen had dropped from his hand, and a portion of freshly-written manuscript was before him. Mr. Manson was a native of the north of Scotland, and graduated at Aberdeen.

An action for libel has been instituted by Mr. Strange, of the Alhambra, London, for an article upon that place of amusement in *All the Year Round*. This case is likely to be a *cause célèbre*, inasmuch as it will largely affect the liberty of the Press to be a censor morum.

Two Roman Catholic clergymen belonging to Mullingar have taken actions against the *Daily Express* (Dublin paper), for alleged libels contained in letters published by that journal in reference to the late murder of Mr. Anketell, the railway station-master at the above town, in Westmeath.

AN "INDEPENDENT EDITOR."—My opposite neighbour, finding that I was not long from England, informed me he was "the independent editor" of the *Nevada Union Gazette*, and went on to ask: "And how may you have left literary pursuits? How air Tennyson and Thomas T. Carlyle?" I assured him, to the best of my belief, they were fairly well; to which his reply was: "Guess them ther men ken sling ink, they ken."—*Dilke's "Greater Britain."*

WITH reference to the dissolution of the partnership hitherto existing between Messrs. Bull, Middleton and Co., news and advertisement agents of 87, Essex-street, Strand. We are requested to state that Mr. William B. Bull continues to act as secretary to the National Newspaper League Company, Limited, at the same address.

THE PROPOSED HALFPENNY POSTAGE.—On the 19th ult., Mr. Edmond Yates, "of the General Post Office," received a deputation from the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce and the Tradesmen's Guild on the subject of a halfpenny postage for newspapers. Afterwards he saw the proprietors of some leading country papers, and collected a mass of information for embodiment in a report, to be made to the Postmaster General and the Treasury.

DEATH OF MR. BRADBURY.—The death is announced of Mr. Bradbury, of the well-known firm of Bradbury and Evans, proprietors of *Punch*, and formerly of the *Daily News*, and in 1861, founders of the *Australian Mail*, of which Mr. Samuel Durham, at one time in their employ, but now city editor of the *Daily News*, was editor. Mr. Bradbury had long suffered from asthma, and a sad domestic affliction which occurred about seven years ago had given a shock to his health which it never recovered.

In the House of Commons on the 6th ult., Mr. Graves proposed the reduction of the postage on newspapers to one halfpenny, and that of printed matter, under two ounces in weight, to the same amount. Mr. Mundella seconded the motion. The feeling of the House seemed favourable to a reduction, but the motion appeared to be premature. The Marquis of Hartington was not prepared to acquiesce in it on the part of the Post Office, or the Chancellor of the Exchequer on that of the Revenue, and it was lost by 229 votes against 62.

BISHOP ULLATHORNE AND THE "UNIVERSAL NEWS."—On the 8th ult., an application was made in Judges' Chambers on behalf of Messrs. Richardson and Son, the Catholic publishers of *The*

for leave to inspect and copy the files of the *Universal News*, dating from the 1st of January, 1868. The proprietor of that newspaper, Mr. Clinton Hoey, has commenced proceedings against Dr. Ullathorne, the Catholic Bishop of Birmingham, for an alleged libel contained in a pastoral, to the effect that the *Universal News* was the organ of the Fenian party in England; and also against Messrs. Richardson and Son, for having published the pastoral containing the alleged libel, in pamphlet form. Dr. Ullathorne pleads justification. The application to inspect and copy the files of the *Universal News* was granted. A vigorous effort by the friends of both litigants is being made to have the case settled by arbitration.

OLD SCOTCH NEWSPAPERS.—We have been favoured with a sight of several Edinburgh papers of the early part of last century, and in these days it is interesting to contrast the gazettes of 140 years ago with the broadsheets of 1868. The *Edinburgh Evening Courant* is a four-paged paper, about 1 foot by 9 inches in size; it contains two advertisements, and professes to give the news received in the modern Athens between "Tuesday, March 11, and Thursday, March 13th, 1729." It informs us, among other things, how the Pope, on the 1st of March, presented the Pretender with a golden crown weighing 16 oz., mentions an Independent ordination in which Dr. Calamy and Dr. Watts took part, and advises its readers that the second part of the Beggar's Opera will be published with all convenient speed. There is also some scandal about the Dey of Algiers. It is filled with abstracts of foreign news, in which that relating to ships, and galleons gold-laden, predominates. It is stamped for postage, and certainly although newspapers at the present day are improved in every other respect, they are not in this. Our stamp does not pretend to any beauty, or even comeliness of appearance; the stamp of that day did; it represents a crown above a thistle and rose, with the words below, "Semper eadem," and "Half-penny," the whole being draped at the sides and back. The *Caledonian Mercury* of 1769 has the same number of pages, but is a little larger, and contains many more advertisements, letters, &c.

THE PURCHASE OF THE TELEGRAPHS.—This project is proceeding slowly. In reply to Mr. Baines, the Marquis of Hartington stated that the arbitrations between the Government and the various companies as to the sums to be paid were in progress; some were completed, but the larger number were incomplete. When the arrangements had made further progress, it might be possible to form some estimate of the total sum which would have to be paid, and he should then be able to state what were the intentions of the Government. Notice would be given in the *Gazette* of a Bill to enable the Government in the event of their obtaining the property of the telegraph companies, to obtain also a monopoly for the transmission of telegraphic messages in this country.

THE NATIONAL COLLECTION OF NEWSPAPERS.—In the House of Commons on the 23rd ult., in reply to a question of Mr. A. Bass, Mr. Ayrton said the Inland Revenue Department had not been in the habit of making purchases of newspapers for the British Museum, but under an act passed some years ago to enable the Inland Revenue Department to collect the revenue on newspapers when they were taxed, newspaper proprietors were required to transmit copies to that department, and the department, after they had kept them some time, sent them to the British Museum. They cost the British Museum nothing, and they were preserved there in order that the public might refer to them whenever they desired. There was a very great collection of newspapers in the British Museum, and it was one of the most valuable parts of the library. He had laid on the table a bill for the purpose of making new arrangements, by which those publications would be sent direct to the British Museum at stated periods, so that the collection would be preserved and maintained as it had been hitherto.

It is certain, that they who sneer at journalism, sneer at the embodiment of the briskest, brightest intellects this nation can boast. "I do not care how much you ridicule me," says Milverton, in *Realism*, "but I do maintain that ours is an age noted for its richness in literary skill. Look at the excellence in the daily and weekly Press, and in the innumerable monthlies." As to the charge brought against journalists, that they are for ever insisting upon the importance of their profession, as if being a journalist were really anything more to boast of than of being a stockbroker, it may be plainly said that the charge is a false one. But were this feeling of pride a fact, nothing in reality could be more justifi-

able. Journalists may be fairly permitted to feel proud of their calling and their power when they reflect how limited the profession necessarily is by the very stringent conditions it imposes; and that it is not only the supreme intellectual force of the day, but that by it, in a more or less degree, the councils of the country are regulated and its destinies shaped.—*Leader*.

THE EDITOR'S PRIVILEGES.

I wish I was an Editor—
I really do, indeed;
It seems to me that editors
Get everything they need.
They get the biggest and the best
Of everything that grows,
And get in free to circuses
And other kinds of shows.
And when a mammoth cheese is cut,
They always get a slice
For saying Mrs. Smith knows how
To make it very nice.
The largest pumpkin, largest beet,
And other garden stuff,
Is blown into the sanctum by
An editorial puff.
The biggest swell will speak to them
No matter how they dress—
A shabby coat is nothing—if
You own a printing press.
At Ladies' Fairs, they're almost hugged
By pretty girls, you know;
That they may crack up everything
That ladies have to show;
And thus they get a blow-out free
At every party feed;
The reason is—because they write,
And other people read.

ONE of the earliest existing English acts of interference with the Press is found in the reign of George II., in "An Act to restrain and prevent the excessive increase of horse-races," which act imposes a penalty of £100 on any printer who shall publish a notice or advertisement of any prize of a less value than £50 to be run for by any horse, &c. The next is also in the same reign, in "An Act for the better preventing of thefts and robberies," imposing a penalty of £50 for advertising a reward for the return of articles lost or stolen, with "No questions asked."

Notes and Queries.

R. C.—Dr. Croly's "connection with newspapers" did not "begin and end with the *Britannia*." In earlier life, and previously to preferment, he contributed to the *Sun*, the *Literary Gazette*, and other journals.

PADDY.—Get along wid yer—we know better.

S. S.—Yes. If we are not mistaken, you contributed to How & Parsons' *English Journal*. Send us the M.S.; it shall have our best consideration, and, if approved, paid for. "The Labourer," &c., &c.

G. P. ROWELL & Co.—The "American Newspaper Directory" has come to hand, but too late for notice this month.

Obituary.

BOSZERMÉWYI, LADISLAUS, editor of the *Magyar Ujsag*; whilst undergoing a month's imprisonment for Press offences at Pesth.

BYRN, OTTO, editor of the *Folkboten*, at Munich.

GOUET, AMADEE, sub-editor of the *Siccle*, and author of a popular History of France, at Paris.

HJELM HANS ABEL, formerly editor and publisher of the *National Bladet*, at Christiania.

KEMP, H. L., editor of the *Derby Mercury*.

SCHUIRMANN, GERARD, editor of the *Hansa*, at Hamburg.

ZUCCHALMAGLIO, F. W., a well known writer in political journals under the pseudonym of "Wilhelm von Waldbrühl," at Nachrodt, in Westphalia.

BANKRUPT.

WINNER, JOHN, Walmer-road, Notting-hill, newsgent.

PARTNERSHIP DISSOLVED.

Bull & Middleton, of 37, Essex Street, Strand, Advertising and Newsgents.

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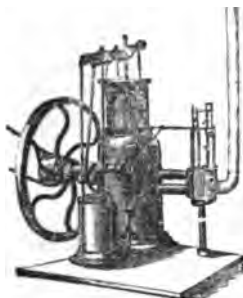
The advantages they claim for these Rollers, as compared with the ordinary Composition Rollers, are,—

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2. They are wholly unaffected by any temperature.
3. They are not damaged by brass rule.
4. They are permanently soft and elastic.
5. They can be used immediately after being washed.

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IT REQUIRES NO GAS.
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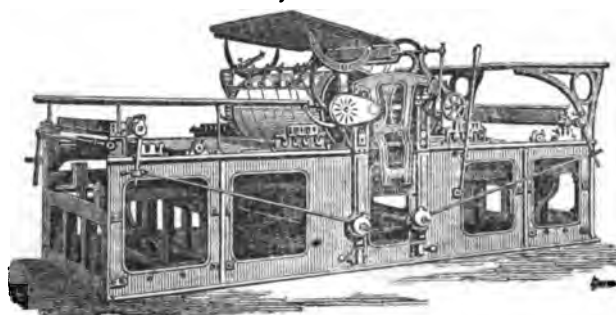
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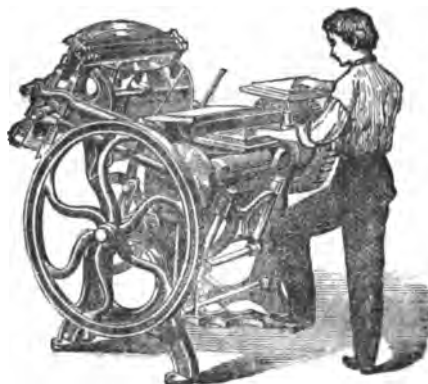
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TESTIMONIALS.

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Messrs. H. S. Cropper and Co.

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Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

Messrs. Cropper and Co., Nottingham.

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We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
CURTIS and BEAMISH.

6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

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Yours truly (for M'Corquodale and Co.),

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Messrs. Cropper and Co.

Halifax, 23rd October, 1867.

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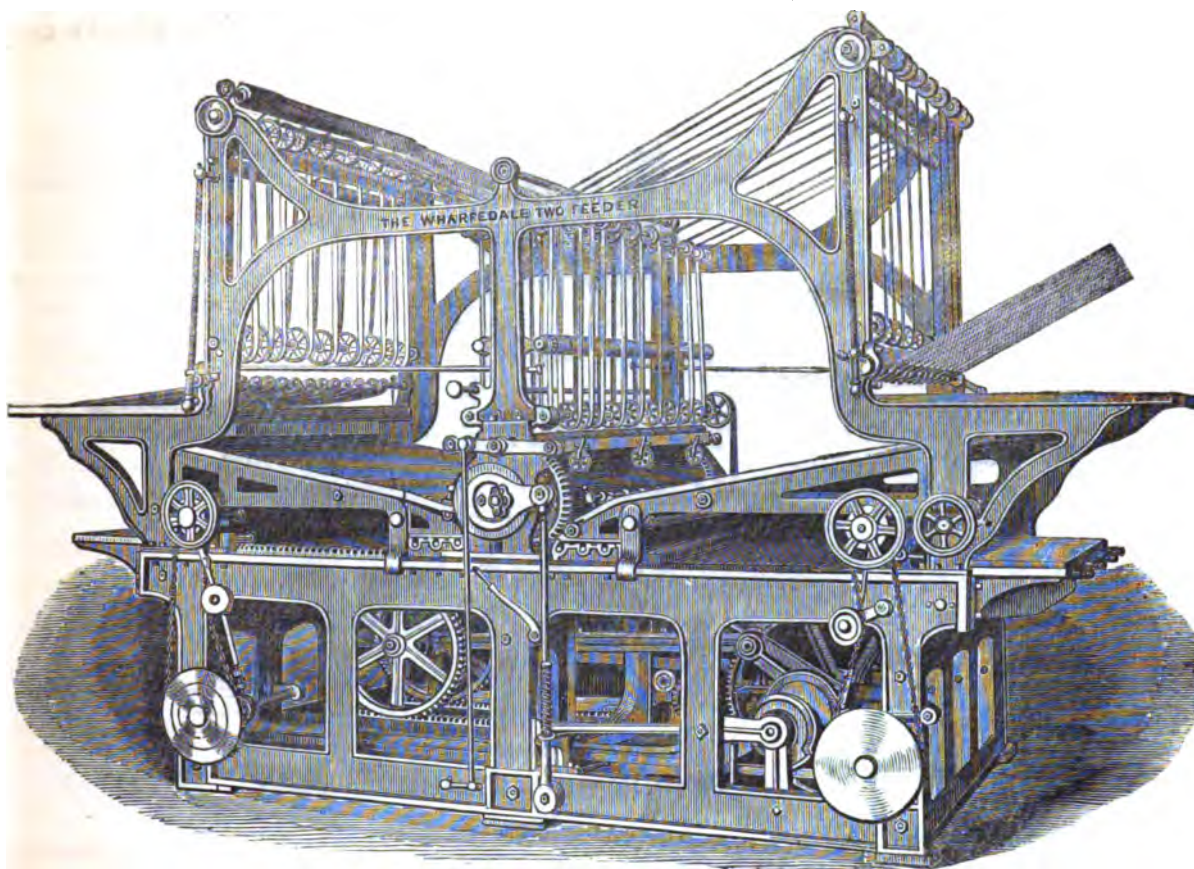
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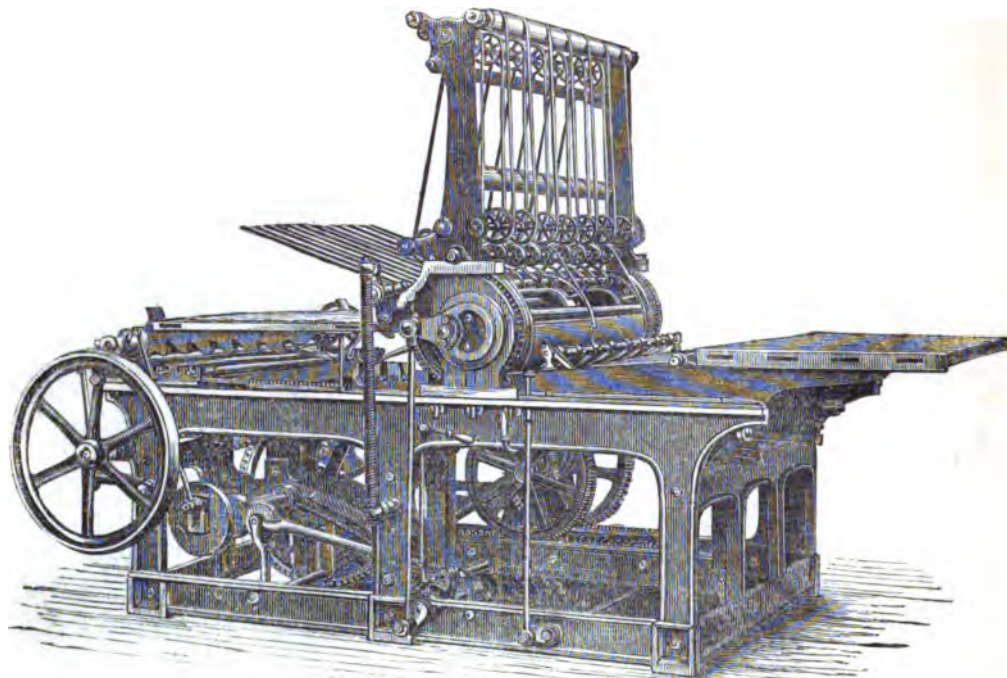
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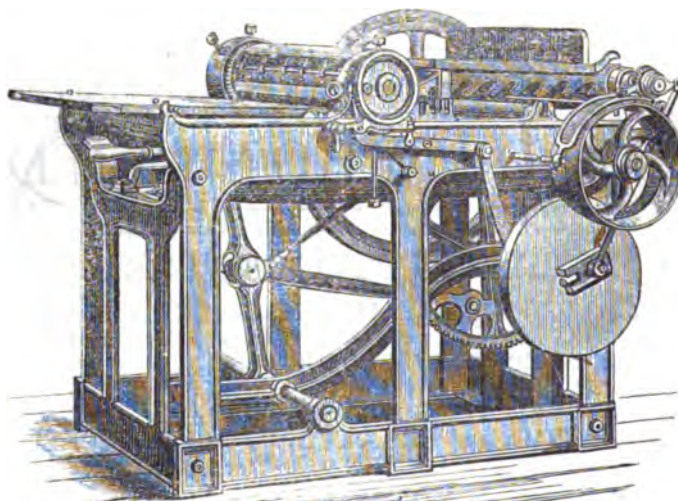
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PUBLISHERS, AND
"THE TRADE."

No. 81.—VOL. III.

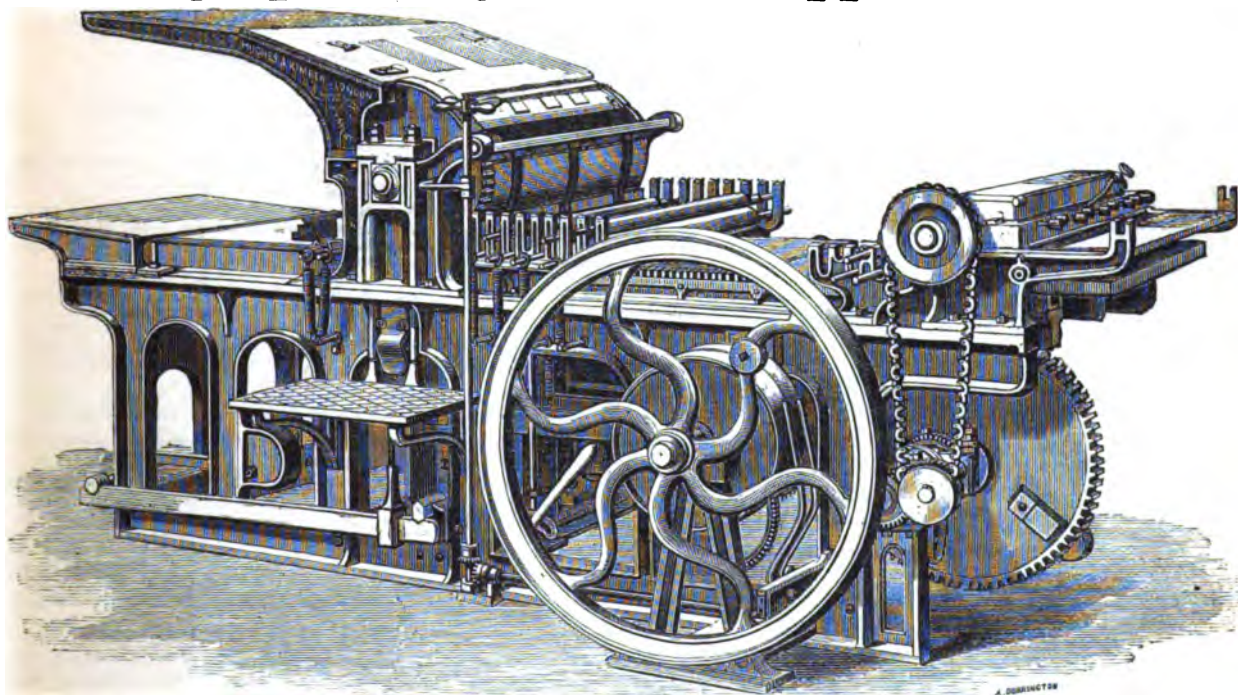
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An entirely false issue has been attempted to be raised in the case of the Attorney-General v. Bradlaugh. The prosecution was simply for the enforcement of legal requirements that every newspaper proprietor in the kingdom is subject to—the registration of his paper, accompanied with security against damages and costs for the publication of libels. The prosecution was commenced by a Tory and carried out by a Whig Government, so that there was no political *animus* in the case. It was simply a legal process to insist upon certain legal regulations. Be those regulations good or bad is beside the question—we have always maintained that they were bad, unjust, and unnecessary, and as their days are numbered we need say no more about them. But we see no reason why the proprietor of the *National Reformer* should feel a personal grievance in being called upon to comply with conditions which the proprietors of the *Times* and every other paper in the kingdom are subject to.

But it has been pretended that Mr. Bradlaugh was singled out to fulfil these conditions because the *National Reformer* advocated infidel principles. The allegation is as absurd as it would be to say that the seditious speeches of the Mayor of Cork have brought him under Government censure because he is a Roman Catholic. But it suggests a query, whether it *may not* be the duty of the Government of a Christian country to take some notice of an avowed organ of atheism. We are not speaking of the *National Reformer* now; we never saw the paper, and are not in a position to say whether its articles are of an infidel tendency or not; we speak only on general principles and with a confidence that we can speak on the subject without any fear of our sentiments being misconstrued, inasmuch as our advocacy of the liberty of the Press is a quarter of a century old. Let there be the fullest freedom to Tory, Conservative, Whig, Liberal, and Radical journals to lay their respective ideas before the public, because in the main, public opinion will decide rightfully between them. We are, and always have been for the fullest ventilation of political subjects; and even in religious controversy, by all means let the Jews, the Roman Catholics, and every sect of Dissenters be allowed through the Press as pure and free an expression of opinion as the Established Church; but we hesitate when we come to atheism. Is not the infidel as dangerous an enemy to law, order, domestic happiness, and public safety—nay, more so, than to the everlasting truths of religion? And, being such, is it a safe policy to let

him throw forth broad sheets of blasphemy among the uneducated masses—too ready to accept an excuse for not fulfilling duties or acknowledging responsibilities irksome and unpalatable to their tastes? In the pride which we have ever felt in the Press, we shudder to think it should ever be made a medium for poisoning knowledge at its spring, and sending the fatal draught into thousands of channels throughout the land. To us it seems a horrible perversion of all that the Press is intended for—a curse springing out of the greatest blessing that ever fell to the lot of nations, and to us it seems the duty of a Government to stamp upon the fungus whenever it rears its unwholesome head, and crush it by every constitutional means.

Perhaps we speak more from a horror lest the noble institution of the Press should ever be made an instrument of evil when its legitimate mission is so grand, than in the interest of public morals. We hope not; but when the question has been so unjustifiably raised, we cannot suppress our own conviction that it is the duty of a Government to check the publication of atheistical journals in the direct way which the law provides. We are happy in the belief that its work would be light in this country, for there are none within our own knowledge; as we have already said, we never saw the *National Reformer*, and it may be a most orthodox paper for all we know to the contrary; but the motives which have been unfairly attributed to the Government in the prosecution of its proprietor have brought up serious considerations whether a Government might not be failing in its duty if it did not deal with atheistical journals, should they unhappily appear, in a very much more direct and effective way, without in the slightest degree endangering the true liberty of the Press, which is even more jeopardised by the indulgence of an unbridled licence than by a reasonable obedience to the laws and rules which govern the society of free states.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

IX. PRIVILEGED PUBLICATIONS.—ABSENCE OF EVIDENCE OF MALICE.

THE case of the Queen v. Velej, in the Court of Queen's Bench, raised the question whether certain statements contained in a letter written by the defendant, and published in the *Chelmsford Chronicle*, impugning the conduct of the prosecutor, were published on an occasion, and under circumstances which exempted the defendant from legal liability.

The case was tried at the Guildhall, London, in February, 1867, before the Lord Chief Justice of England and a special jury, when the following facts appeared in evidence:—The defendant, a solicitor at Chelmsford, of the firm of Gepp and Velej, had written the letter in the question, in the name of the firm, to defend the character and conduct of a client, a clergyman of the name of Hamilton, from certain charges made against him by the prosecutor, a Mr. Hey, at the Bow-street Police Court. A report of the proceedings on that occasion had been published in the *Times* and other newspapers; and the reported statements of the prosecutor's counsel, which the alleged libel was written to deny, were to the effect that the prosecutor had married the daughter of Mr. Hamilton, and had lived with her for several years without the slightest interruption to their domestic happiness; that his wife had left home, and that a few days afterwards he received a letter from his father-in-law stating that he had been telegraphed to from a lodging-house in Bloomsbury, where he found his daughter, whom he brought home; that a medical man had seen her, and had declared her to be a dangerous lunatic; and that the surgeon attending her had signed a certificate to that effect. In the defendant's letter, published in the *Chelmsford paper*, it was charged against the prosecutor that the statements made at the police-court by the prosecutor's counsel "as derived from the instructions in his brief," and reported in the *Times*,

"contained an incredible number of wicked and deliberate falsehoods." The letter was set forth *verbatim* in the indictment; to which the defendant pleaded "not guilty;" and also, under Lord Campbell's Act of 1843, a plea of justification, to the effect that the libel was true in substance and in fact, and that its publication was for the public benefit. On the part of the defendant, it was urged by his counsel that the indictment could not be sustained without proof of actual malice. The prosecutor gave evidence in support of his case, but no attempt was made to prove malice on the part of the defendant. Evidence was gone into on his part, on the plea of justification, to establish the truth of the statements made in the defendant's letter; one of the witnesses examined for this purpose being the clergyman, Mr. Hamilton. Before the evidence for the defence was concluded, the jury intimated that they were satisfied; and the Lord Chief Justice then said, "It is impossible for us not to see that these gentlemen, Messrs. Gepp and Veley, wrote the letter under feelings of the strongest indignation at the scandalous charges made against their client; and if the jury are satisfied that there was no malice, and that the defendants wrote the letter honestly for the purpose of protecting and vindicating their client's character from what they believed to be false charges, and that they were well warranted under his instructions in taking that course; then I am clearly of opinion that the occasion was one which allowed of such a publication and justified them in repelling the charges made against their client by the allegation of the falsehood of those charges." The jury assented, and a verdict was then entered for the defendants on both issues.

Another case involving a similar question of privileged publication and absence of malice, arose lately in the case of *Lawless v. the Anglo-Egyptian Cotton and Oil Company (Limited)*, and was argued in February last in the Court of Queen's Bench, upon a rule *nisi* to enter a nonsuit, after a trial before the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, at the summer assizes at Manchester, in 1868, when a verdict was found for the plaintiff, with £500 damages. The defendant company was a joint-stock company, for whom the plaintiff, in 1866, went out to Egypt, as their manager, and returned to England in March, 1868. There were auditors whose duty it was to audit the accounts and report to the directors, and the transactions in which the plaintiff was engaged were necessarily brought before them. The alleged libel was a statement made by the auditors in their report to the directors, which was as follows: "We certify that the accounts as above stated are correct. The shareholders will observe that there is a charge of £1,806 1s. 7d. for deficiency of stock which the manager is responsible for. His accounts have been badly kept and have been rendered to us very irregularly." The directors, at their annual meeting in April, 1868, put before the shareholders their report with the auditors' statement, containing the alleged libel annexed to the report. The shareholders were much dissatisfied, and it was resolved that the report, with the auditors' statement, should be printed and sent to the absent shareholders. This was done, and the plaintiff then brought his action for libel. The company's counsel, at the trial, submitted that the publication was privileged. The Lord Chief Baron ruled that it was not, and the verdict, as above stated, passed for the plaintiff; but with leave to the company to move the Court of Queen's Bench (in which the action was brought), on the question of privilege. Accordingly, a motion was made in the following term, and a rule *nisi* was granted, to set aside the verdict, and enter a nonsuit. On the argument in support of the rule, it was contended, on the part of the plaintiff, that the directors had no right to communicate to their shareholders in any way other than the mode prescribed by their rules, namely, at one of their meetings, the statement made by the auditors. The unauthorised mode of communication which the directors had adopted was, therefore, evidence of malice, and rendered the company liable in this action. In support of the rule, it was urged that the action was not maintainable without evidence of express malice, and here there was none.

The case was argued in the absence of the Lord Chief Justice, and only Mr. Justice Mellor and Mr. Justice Hannen, who heard the argument, gave judgment. The former learned judge said: What the directors did in presenting their report to the shareholders was in conformity with the Act of Parliament. There is nothing to show any evidence of malice. The directors were

fully warranted in believing the report of their auditors, and the absent shareholders were none the less interested in the conduct of their officer than those who were present. The prosperity of the company in all probability would depend on these matters being placed before the shareholders. When a report of directors has to be sent to a numerous body of shareholders, printing, surely, is a necessary mode of circulation. No doubt the rule laid down in *Cook v. Wildes*, is that if there is evidence of malice, either extrinsic or intrinsic, in answer to the immunity claimed by reason of the occasion, a question arises which the jury, and the jury alone, ought to determine. But this case is distinguishable from *Cook v. Wildes*. In that case the defendant was not content with stating the facts, but put a gloss upon them. There was, therefore, in the statement itself intrinsic evidence of malice. Then, in the present case, the question is, was this a privileged communication? I think it was. There was a corresponding interest and duty in the communication *bonâ fide* made by the directors to the shareholders. But independently of any authority, I am prepared to hold that a company having a great number of shareholders, all interested in knowing how their officers conduct themselves, are justified in making a communication in a printed report, relating to the conduct of their officers, to all the shareholders, whether present or absent, if the communication be made without malice and *bonâ fide*. Mr. Justice Hannen added: I think that the occasion was privileged, and that therefore the inference of malice was rebutted, which is *primâ facie* presumed to exist when a libel is published of another. I cannot frame my mind to understand how it can be thought that the directors of a joint-stock company, in reporting to their shareholders upon the conduct of one of their officers, can be held to be acting beyond the scope of their authority. It seems to me that it was their duty to do as they did. It must be present to the minds of many that hear me that the directors might have been in a position of great difficulty if they had withheld this report. The mere fact, therefore of the directors communicating it to the shareholders is, *primâ facie*, privileged. But there remains the question, whether there was any evidence of intrinsic or extrinsic evidence of malice which ought to have been submitted to the jury, and I think there was not. A nonsuit must therefore be entered.

We may observe here that it seems most probable the case will undergo further contest; for, independently of the fact that the question was not argued in the full Court, but before two of the judges only, the decision is in direct conflict with a very strong opinion expressed at the trial by the Lord Chief Baron, that the publication in question was not, under the circumstances, privileged; and, moreover, that an action for libel would not lie against a joint-stock company; though, on the latter point, his Lordship said he was not aware that the decisions of the superior courts had, so far as they had gone, settled the point; affirming that such an action was maintainable.

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

XI.—THE "STAMFORD MERCURY."

"ESTABLISHED in 1695, and has been uninterruptedly printed weekly for 174 years," is the proud boast of the senior provincial paper in England. How far this is founded on fact it is difficult to say, for the most ancient copy kept in the possession of the proprietor, a few years since, bore the date of 1728. There is a copy in the Museum of the Philosophical Society at Leicester dated 1719, vol. xiv. This would apparently give 1705 as the date of its establishment, yet the date 1695 is generally accepted as the true one. The copy in the Leicester Museum is printed with peculiar black ink, and is a fair specimen of the typographic art of the period. It consists of four pages of demy quarto, and its style is that of the old news letters. It was cradled in the lap of the bloodless revolution, and rose out of the freedom of the press granted by William III. Until 1792, when the *Sans Culottes* held possession of Paris and revolutionised France, its career was not marked by any important event. It appeared regularly from the small bookseller's shop in that small Lincolnshire town, and spread gradually over the counties of Lincoln and Rutland. In 1792 Mr. Richard Newcomb, who was at that time a printer and bookseller at Uppingham in Rutlandshire, became connected with the *Stam-*

ford Mercury. He married Mrs. Knott, who kept a bookseller's shop in Stamford, and carried on the joint business of printer, bookseller, and newspaper-proprietor, until the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* became a power in the state, and its circulation rose to a point which justified the new proprietor in disposing of the bookselling business, in order that his entire energies might be devoted to its increase. With a clear insight into the future, he educated his eldest son to take his place. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to Mr. Gedge, of Bury St. Edmunds, for seven years, to learn the mechanical part of the business, and afterwards obtained a situation as reporter on the *Globe* newspaper (then in its infancy). After a short metropolitan experience, he was recalled by his father to take the active management of the *Mercury*, and about the year 1815 he was received into an equal partnership. The result of this sound preliminary training was soon apparent in the circulation of the paper. About the time of the partnership the circulation had reached the then large number of 3,000 copies a-week. Eight years later, in 1824, it had risen to 4,000, and experienced the mechanical difficulties of the old hand-press, which led to the introduction of a hand-machine and the enlargement of the paper. In 1830 it had reached a weekly issue of 5,000 copies, and this large number was further supplemented on the passing of the Reform Act of 1832. At this time the stamp duty on each copy was fourpence, which was reduced in 1836 to one penny, and the result of the reduction on the circulation of the *Stamford Mercury* was to add to it half as many subscribers as it had before. From 8,000 a-week, it advanced by rapid strides to over 13,500, at which number it stood in July, 1855, when the compulsory stamp was removed—the highest weekly issue of any provincial paper in England. When the paper duty was repealed, the proprietors reduced the price, and the weekly sale is now about 25,000. Mr. Richard Newcomb, jun., under whose management these results had been obtained, died in 1851, at the age of 67. He had married in 1825 the widow of Mr. Sharp, paper-maker, Romsey, Hants, but left no issue. He was succeeded by his nephew, Mr. Robert Nicholas Newcomb, surgeon, of Stamford, in the proprietorship of the paper and in his large property. This gentleman has since died, and the property is now vested in the hands of trustees. The politics of the *Mercury* have never been prominently brought forward. During the remembrance of many persons now alive it upheld Toryism, but, when the Whigs took office in 1830, it suddenly became Liberal, and the proprietor justified himself and the course he had pursued at a public meeting. The literary management of the paper was held by both the Mr. Newcombs until the close of the life of the latter. The present editor is Mr. John Paradise, under whose management it maintains all its ancient prestige. Mr. Thomas Cooper, the Chartist poet, and author of the "Purgatory of Suicides," was in his younger days connected with the paper. In style and arrangement of news and advertisements, the *Stamford Mercury* has always been remarkable for its neatness and method. It is like a map, every paragraph and every locality finds not only an allotted but a prescribed place in its columns. Hence its great popularity among its country readers. Leading articles have never been amongst its vanities. Well-assorted and well-written items of news collected by well-paid contributors, and printed well on good paper, combined with sterling honesty and independence of management, raised and have kept the *Lincolnshire, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* in the foremost rank of the provincial "Journals of Note."

[Among the advertisements in the early files of the *Stamford Mercury*, we may quote the following from the No. for March 28th, 1716, from Jefferson's "Book About Doctors:" "Whereas the majority of apothecaries in Boston have agreed to pull down the price of bleeding to sixpence; let these certify that Mr. Clarke, apothecary, will bleed anybody at his shop gratis.—ED. N. P.]

THE "COMIC" EPIDEMIC.—We are threatened with another "comic," under the title of the *Camera*. Meanwhile, a halfpenny weekly concentration of the contents of *Punch, Judy, Will-o'-the-Wisp, the Tomahawk, Echoes, the Owl, Fun, the Free Lance, the Porcupine, Le Petit Journal pour Rize, La Vie Parisienne*, and some American absurdities, appeared on the 13th ult., under the title of *Wit of the Week*.

CLASS JOURNALISM IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

From the "American Newspaper Directory" received last month we have compiled the following statistics of the Class Journals of North America:

	United States.	British Dominions.
Religious	258	23
Agricultural and Horticultural.....	62	5
Medical and Surgical.....	45	3
Educational.....	40	4
Freemasonry, Odd-fellowship, and Temperance	56	4
Commercial and Financial	45	1
Insurance	9	1
Real Estate	12	1
Mechanical and Mining	16	0
Legal	10	7
Sporting	14	0
Musical	18	0
Woman's Rights.....	3	0
German	184	5
French	21	21
Scandinavian	11	0
Spanish	6	0
Dutch	5	0
Italian	8	0
Welsh	2	0
Bohemian	1	0

The two Welsh papers are both published at Utica, New York State, and bear the respective titles of *Y Drych* and *Y Cyfaill*.

At Montreal there is among the French papers a *Lanterne*.

Among the sporting papers is the *Hase Ballis*, of Boston, *Our Mazeppa*, of California, and the *Billiard Cue*, of New York.

Among the musical papers of New York is *Orpheus*. The New York organ of the strong-minded women bears the startling title of the *Revolution*; the organ of woman's rights in Illinois is the *Sorosis*. In New York one of the commercial papers is called the *Tobacco Leaf and Quidnunc*. Among the temperance journals are the *Rescue*, of Sacramento; the *Old Oaken Bucket*, of Indianapolis; the *Good Templar*, of Boston; the *National Platform*, of Iowa; the *Excelsior, Progress*, and *Worthy Chief*, of New York; the *Templars' Offering*, of Elyria, Ohio; the *Southern Son* (Sie), of Nashville; the *Sparkling Gem*, of Indianapolis; the *Wisconsin Chief*, of Fort Alkinion, Wisconsin; and the *Cadet*, of St. John's, New Brunswick. Of medical journals there is the *Lancet*, at New York, and the *Probe*, at Media, Pennsylvania. There are a *Carrier Dove* and a *Guardian Angel* among the religious papers of New York.

But among the general newspapers of the States there is a marked absence of affected or sensational titles. But this portion of the subject we leave to Mr. Carp.

THE PROVINCIAL NEWSPAPER SOCIETY.

THE annual meeting of this society was held on Tuesday, the 26th ult., at the Crystal Palace, under the presidency of Mr. Harper, proprietor of the *Huddersfield Chronicle*. The attendance was unusually large, the daily as well as the weekly Press of the provinces being well represented. Several important subjects were brought forward for discussion, including the proposed halfpenny postage for newspapers, the Newspapers, &c., Repeal Act, the Libel Bill, the Electric Telegraphs Bill, &c. Mr. Edmund Yates, of the General Post Office, was present by the special invitation of the president, and afforded to the members much valuable information on the proposed postal alteration. A considerable amount of discussion took place, the great body of the meeting being strongly of opinion that the change would be beneficial to the Press, and also to the public. In reference to the Newspapers, &c., Repeal Act, which recently passed the third reading in the House of Commons, the president, in conjunction with Mr. C. N. Cole, the solicitor to the society, had taken great pains to ascertain how far the repeal of the act in question would endanger the

vested interests of the newspaper proprietors in their copyright, and had, on the suggestion of Mr. Ayrton, who introduced the bill into Parliament, prepared a case for counsel. A very elaborate opinion, as given by counsel, was printed and laid on the table, and the subject was left to the newly-elected committee of management, to take such steps in the matter as they may think desirable. Other subjects of importance were also brought before the meeting and fully discussed. Mr. Harper was urged to allow himself to be re-appointed president for the ensuing year, but declined, and the meeting thereupon unanimously elected as president Mr. C. W. Naylor, proprietor of the *Cambridge Chronicle*. At the close of the business, which lasted upwards of three hours, the members, to the number of about 60, sat down to a sumptuous dinner, served in their usual style by Messrs. Bertram and Roberts.

THE LENGTH OF REPORTS.

[The following paper was read after dinner on the 8th May, at a meeting of journalists in London, by Mr. William Hunt, of the *Eastern Morning News*.]

THE chief consideration in deciding upon the insertion of any and what description of report of speeches or events, is the same as should influence the publication of other portions of the literary and news contents of the paper—namely its public interest or value. At times the value of a subject is out of all proportion to its interest to the public, and *vice versa*. Assuming then, the subject to be of sufficient public interest or value to deserve a report, the question arises, what description of report is best? All reports must of course be faithful, true and fair, and unless founded on these fundamental principles, none can be good. But many questions may be suggested in reference to the style and length of such reports. Newspapers address themselves to people who demand the news of the day. In the view of the modern periodical writer, news dies almost in its birth. A weekly newspaper is fast becoming an anachronism, fast fading into a mere historical record, intended and useful only for reference. It may be so with the morning paper, evening is, and noon soon will be represented by its broadsheets. If, therefore, reports are not read as soon as they are issued from the Press, they do not answer the great end of their creation, and become, in ceasing to be news, of but little value. The worth of articles, paragraphs, and reports, therefore, must be estimated by their fitness for immediate use. No matter how excellent the composition, if it be not read, it is from our point of view valueless. That is best then editorially, which is most likely to attract general attention. Newspapers want not only the fitting few, but the many, and in this matter of reports, that which suits the masses best is, as a general rule, most agreeable to the select few. This is a fast age—I don't mean in the slang sense—but that literally the age is rapid. To conform to it, the editor's maxim must no longer be *festina lenté* but *festina*. We crowd into hours, the life-long experiences of our forefathers. Business, pleasure, life, are all rapid—all performed at high pressure. What reports then, under this condition of things are most likely to be read? May I not rather ask who in this busy bustling time ever reads a long report, except on compulsion, or because it gratifies his vanity by relating to himself, in which case, a second appreciating reader is probably added in the wife of his bosom. No doubt there are occasions requiring long reports, but I contend they are exceedingly rare, and that in most instances the importance attached to them is more imaginary than real. The long reports of Parliamentary proceedings in the *Times* are, I grant, important and historically valuable for reference, but how many read them? If we except those whose duties as politicians or newspaper editors require them to do so, and the stupid readers who devour the entire paper from title to imprint, and finish denser blockheads than they began, the number who do not content themselves with the summary is very small indeed. I regard this as certain, and I look upon it as an illustration of the general principle that the number of readers of reports is in inverse ratio to their length. I have been expostulated with by intelligent and able men of business for having discontinued the brief summary of Parliamentary proceedings which used to appear in "topics of the day," on the ground that it saved them working through the reports, and those

reports, be it remembered, are but summaries. Nay, even those who are bound to inform themselves of what is said in Parliament, flee the rivals of Hansard when they think they can with safety rely upon a reporter with the extractive power of a hydraulic press. What Mr. Whalley or Sir George Jenkinson said is of vastly greater interest to Peterborough and North Wilts, and certainly to the rest of England, than why the orators said it; and Parliamentary reasons are vastly inferior to Parliamentary votes. And if this be true of Parliamentary reports, which have a general and paramount interest, how much more so is it of the majority of reports in provincial papers? Who but themselves and their intimate friends and admirers read the Alexandrine speeches of provincial orators, town-councillors, or local politicians? The unfortunate self-conceit and vanity of this small but intrusive class too often prompt them to complain of the brevity of reports, and their pertinacious clamour will sometimes prevent editors noticing the quieter approval of the great mass of modest and intelligent readers, who would be robbed of much interesting and useful reading if too much space in the paper were absorbed by long reports. Long reports are not only not read themselves, but exclude matter that would be read. The modern press of matter demands the substitution upon daily newspapers of intelligent, observing, descriptive writers in lieu of mechanical, voracious phonographists, of literary cud-chawers, for mere reproducers of the raw material. The war between time and space in the case-room can thus alone be put an end to. Matter, whatever it may have been before, has become so great and tangible, and space so scarce since Bishop Berkeley died, that newspaper editing is more a work of selection than production. Our difficulty is not to fill the paper, but to get all that ought to be there into it. If the editor allows one long report to absorb four columns of the sixteen at his command, he must leave many things unnoticed, and much interesting matter unused. But long reports not only deprive the general reader of more interesting and useful matter, but are often unfair, even to the people most interested. It frequently happens on this system of reporting that the best speeches are not reported, or even fairly noticed. Intending to produce a long report, and ignorant of the speakers, the reporter takes down sedulously, the first part very fully, and by the time the first column has passed through the hands of the printers, and he has another half column written, he is informed by the editor that instead of four columns, only one and a half can be devoted to the meeting. The first part being already in type cannot well be sacrificed, and the greater part of half a column written is necessary to complete a statement or argument, the first part of which is already in type; but as there is no help for it, this is mutilated, and the remainder of the proceedings disposed of in a few lines, the result being a comparatively long but most unsatisfactory report, in which prominence is given to only the earlier and, perhaps, least able, but most presumptuous, speakers. If written by relays of reporters, the evil is still greater, as the first take will have no idea of the greater interest of the second or third; and if the entire report be placed in the editor's hands, he, on the necessity for its reduction becoming positive, has the bore of reading through the whole, and writing a summary, which would have been better done by the reporter, who, having been present, ought to be able more faithfully to represent the proceedings. The editor would at best be a photograph from a picture, possibly an imperfect picture, while the reporter's would have been taken from the living subject. To the reporter himself long reports are annoying, although they save him the exercise of thought and judgment, and reduce him to a mere recording-machine, because they prevent his having any certain and definite standard, and subject him to the changes and chances of the varying demands upon the space of the paper. In the authorised law reports, we have examples of the condensed, yet careful and accurate style of reporting, which newspaper reporters ought to cultivate to a greater extent, in combination with enough of pictorial and descriptive effect to convey to readers a picture of the occasion and the people, as well as of what was said and done. This paper purports to be on the length of reports. Perhaps it ought rather to have been on the shortness of reports. However, the long and short of the whole subject seems to me to be that, out of one thousand reports, one long report may be necessary, but that the nine hundred and ninety-nine should be as short as is compatible with faithfulness.

Short reports are best for the reader, best for speakers of the average type, best for the reporter, best for the editor, and best for the interests of the paper. The editor himself would often be less embarrassed if his instruction to his reporting staff were not merely the command of the unjust steward, to "sit down and write quickly;" but "sit down and write well what you have seen or heard worth repeating."

Review.

The American Newspaper Directory.—New York: G. P. Rowell & Co.

It is impossible to speak too favourably of this first attempt at collecting, not only a list, but the *fullest particulars* of the thousands of journals spread over the immense domain of the United States, and our own dominion in North America. No one, to look at the handsome, well-arranged volume, would doubt but that it was the perfection which a long series of annual issues, had with careful nursing at last arrived at. Three-hundred and fifty closely and well printed pages, of good paper, bound in handsome, thick, cloth boards, with bevelled edges and richly gilt, contain a mass of information that excites our wonder how it could have been got together. The difficulties the enterprising projectors have had to contend against are slightly glanced at in the preface:—"Of the five thousand blanks first forwarded to publishers with a particular request that they might be filled out and returned, in order that their papers might be properly presented in the forthcoming Directory, less than five hundred were responded to."

Correspondence.

SIR BENJAMIN PHILLIPS ON THE EARLY HISTORY OF NEWSPAPERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—The annual dinner of the News-vendors' Benevolent Society seems to be an institution for the perpetuation of error. Some years ago Mr. Charles Dickens, at one of its dinners at the London Tavern stated that the *English Mercurie* was the first British newspaper. His mistake was subsequently pointed out to him by the present writer, and he politely acknowledged the correction. It is less surprising that Sir Benjamin Phillips presiding at the recent banquet, fell into the common blunder. You report him as referring the assembled benevolent news-vendors, to "the early history of newspapers, from their *Establishment in the Sixteenth Century*." For the benefit of the worthy alderman and others labouring under the same misconception, I ask you to print the following extract from the "Quarterly Review," of June, 1855, which puts the case more concisely than it is stated by Mr. Knight Hunt or Mr. Alexander Andrews:

"The *English Mercurie* of 1588, which professes to have been published during those momentous days when the Spanish Armada was hovering and waiting to pounce upon our southern shores, contains among its items of news, three or four book advertisements, and these would undoubtedly have been the first put forth in England were that newspaper genuine. Mr. Watts, of the British Museum, has however proved that the several numbers of this journal to be found in our national library are gross forgeries, and indeed the most inexperienced eye in such matters can easily see that neither their type, paper, spelling, nor composition are much more than one, instead of upwards of two centuries and a half old. Newspapers in the strict sense of the word—that is, publications of news appearing at stated intervals and regularly paged on—did not make their appearance until the latter end of the reign of James I. The *Weekly News*, published in London in 1622, was the first publication which answered to this description."

I am not sorry to observe that this worthy society has at last discarded the obsolete spelling of the word vendor with a penultimate e, in which it so long indulged, and which, strange to say, you yourself adopt on another page of last month's NEWSPAPER PRESS.

Yours truly,

S. J. L.

THE "GAZETTES."—The net profit on the London, Edinburgh, and Dublin *Gazettes* last year was £18,921.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, May 26.

THIS has been a glorious month for the newspapers, a month of the greatest excitement in the Press throughout the country on account of the general elections for the Legislative Assembly, though the enthusiasm of the electors has failed to be aroused by all the eloquence put forth in the daily diatribes of the most experienced journalists. They have had a difficult game to play, and never was it more apparent how split up into factions they are. At the last general election in 1863 the Opposition Press combined to recommend a certain list of Liberal candidates; now scarcely any two of them have recommended the same men. And yet in point of numbers the Opposition Press of this metropolis can boast of an overwhelming majority, comprising *Le Réveil*, *La Presse libre*, *Le Rappel*, *la Tribune*, *le Siècle*, *le Temps*, *le Journal des Débats*, *la Gazette de France*, *le Journal de Paris*, *le Français*, *le Gaulois*, and *l'Universel*, and the organs of the dynastic Opposition, *la Liberté*, *la Presse*, *l'Opinion Nationale*, *le National* de 1869, *le Moniteur Universel*, *le Figaro*, and now of late the *Constitutionnel*. *La Patrie* and *le Public* are Government organs, with a slight shade of independence. *Le Pays* and *le Peuple* are the two only absolute supporters of the Government and the present dynastic personal régime. The *Journal Officiel* is, of course, not included in the above *appercu*. There are many things in the French way of conducting the elections that differ much from our own system. Among other peculiarities is the curious custom of having "official candidates," men recommended by the Government and known to be well-affected to the Imperial dynasty and the present system; they are therefore supported by all the weight of the prefects, sub-prefects, and mayors of communes throughout the Empire, and that weight is brought to bear with a deal of undue threatening and intimidation. The following episode is a fair specimen of the way in which this system of Government intimidation is openly exercised. A local journal called the *Hebdomadaire* is published at Vichy, containing mostly advertisements, and hitherto supported by the patronage of the Thermal Company of that fashionable watering-place and favourite resort of the Emperor to improve his digestion. M. Wallon, the proprietor and manager of that paper, just before the election received a letter from M. Callon, the director of the company, informing him *officially* on the part of the Prefect of the Department of Allier that M. Desmaroux de Gaulmain was the candidate supported by the Government; that His Excellency perceived with great regret the aggravating articles contained in the *Hebdomadaire* against that gentleman, and the open support it gave to the Radical candidate. He concludes by adding that this conduct places the company of which he is manager in a false position, as it gives them the appearance of promoting the interests of the Opposition candidate by supporting with their advertisements a journal so violently opposed to order and good government; and that if this continues the company will be under the painful necessity of withdrawing their advertisements. To this communication M. Wallon returned the following characteristic reply: "Sir,—Your letter is sufficiently imperative, and I am placed in the unpleasant alternative of having to choose between the ruin of my paper or the satisfaction of giving expression to the truth. It is much to my regret that I am obliged to sacrifice the latter, but the struggle is not equal. If, however, any candidate should wish to create a journal as the exponent of his political opinions during the elections, and be willing to deposit the required amount of caution-money, I am ready to place myself entirely at his disposal. In the meantime I shall suppress three articles already set up in type, and as there is no time to prepare new ones to replace them, their space will remain unfilled." And he kept his word, the whole of the front page presenting one unprinted blank.

The *Journal Officiel* publishes the text of an Imperial decree promulgating the additional postal convention between France and Austria, by which the prepayment to destination is allowed on the transmission of newspapers, periodicals, books, and pamphlets between the two countries, including Algeria, at the rate of *centimes*, or six *krentzers*, for every forty grammes of weight.

Profit by this reduction the papers sent must be enclosed in open covers (*unter Kreuzband* or *sous bande*) containing no writing but the name and address of the recipient, the name of the sender, and the date; otherwise such packets will be treated as letters, and full postage charged.

A curious case will have to be decided shortly by the First Chamber of the Tribunal of the Seine. It appears that ever since the death of the late M. Roux de la Borie, chief editor of the *Journal des Debats*, in April last year, the functions have been performed by a lady in the person of Madame Leon Say, who was duly appointed to the office by the Council of Directors. This has given rise to a dispute, for Mad. Russel de Bedford, the sister and heiress of the deceased editor, claims the appointment for herself if it can be held by a female, being invested with all the rights of her late brother as proprietor of sixteen out of the twenty-four shares of the paper.

The ministerial journal, *l'Etendard*, has been discontinued by virtue of an injunction from the Commercial Tribunal, ordering the liquidation of its affairs. The arrest of M. Jules Pio, its manager, who was mixed up in the scandalous affair of Taillefer, the defaulting cashier of the Union Insurance Company, gave the paper its *coup de grace*. It came out in evidence that of the moneys stolen by Taillefer no less than 800,000*fr.* were employed in various sums, and at different times, in supporting the expenses of the *Etendard*, the Court considering such a state of things impossible without complicity and collusion.

M. Paul Meurice having sent circular letters to the editors of the Liberal journals of the metropolis and the provinces, announcing that the former editors and writers of the *Evénement* of 1848, Charles and François Victor Hugo, Auguste Vacquerie, and Paul Meurice, with their friend Henri de Rochefort, were about to start a new paper, which the veteran Victor Hugo, as its sponsor, had named *Le Rappel*, and recommending it to the favourable notice and support of their Liberal contemporaries, by some strange mistake, a copy was sent to the ultra-Conservative *Journal de Bordeaux*, who published it together with some not very flattering comments on it. It was brought out on May 3rd, but the second number was seized for a violent article by Henri de Rochefort.

According to a notice in the *Constitutionnel*, M. Baudrillart lately announced his intention of retiring from the chief editorship of that journal, in consequence of which three other editors of the same paper have resigned from their sense of *esprit de corps*.

The rapid growth of the velocipede mania in France has been followed by the establishment of two special organs; one is *Le Vélocipède, journal humoristique, gazette des sportsmen et des vélocemen*, published at Grenoble. The other appears at Paris under the title of *Le Vélocipède illustré*.

The sale of the *Gaulois* in the streets and kiosks was prohibited for some time, but it is no longer enforced. "The one act was just as arbitrary as the other," says the editor in communicating to his readers the facts of the case.

After another temporary suspension, the provincial *Gaulois*, published at Bordeaux, has again made its appearance for the third time. AVANT-COURIER.

The *Continental Gazette*, published at Paris, became a daily paper on the 1st of May.

In the South a couple of puppets are fighting the battle between Jules Favre and the notorious Cassagnac, at Auch. There are two newspapers in that small town, and they rush into the fight with a disregard of common courtesy, common sense, and, I am sorry to say, grammar, which the renowned champions of Eatanwill might envy. Here are a few gems:—"Cowardly and venal libeller"—"a rogue and a snob"—"a poodle and a demagogue"—"a needy mudlark"—"a slimy ruffian"—"a person whose carcass is destined to be obliterated by the kick of every honest man in the department who wears boots."—*Standard Correspondence*.

An action has been brought against a Paris journal, *La Presse Libre*, by another Paris paper, *La Presse*, for infringement of title. The court decided that the former must change its name, and pay the costs, as well as 300*fr.* damages. The *Presse Libre*, while questioning the justice of this verdict, which puts in jeopardy a publicity it has obtained, it says, by an outlay of 52,000*fr.*, announces that it will not appeal, and that in a few days it will appear as *La Réforme*.

FRENCH CARICATURE.—The *Charivari* announces that M. Emile Ollivier refused his consent to the publication of a sketch in which he was represented as a Turk. That journal afterwards presented to the Prefecture of Police a drawing representing M. Bancel tearing up a tree by the roots, with this inscription below:—"Il déracine un olivier." But the Prefect declared that even the latter could not be published without the authorisation of M. Ollivier, although he appeared in it only in the form of a tree.

THE FRENCH PRESS.—The following statistics of French newspapers have just been published by authority. The Press, it seems, consists of 932 papers, which are thus classed:—Catholic organs 62; Protestant, 25; Jewish, 3; instruction, 28; jurisprudence, 48; administration, 25; political, 45; political economy and commerce, 47; medical science, 58; natural, physical, and mathematical science, 40; agriculture and veterinary art, 32; horticulture and arboriculture, 10; military art, 20; marine and colonies, 12; geographical history and heraldy, 24; fine arts, painting, sculpture, music, and theatres, 65; architecture, 9; archaeology, numismatics, 19; railways, bridges, roads, and mines, 29; financial journals and Bourse returns, 28; technology and popular science, 65; literature, 86; journals of ladies, young ladies, families, and children, 35; fashions and ladies' work, 65; racing, fishing, shooting, and play, 25; freemasonry, 5; spiritualism, 5; bibliographical, 16. One religious paper has a monthly circulation of 50,000; and the *Journal de St. Joseph* sells 56,000 copies.

Another new French journal will appear called *The Day*. It will have for *feuilleton* the "Mysteries of Fenianism," by Messrs. John Savage and O'Shea. The former is United States consul at Leeds, but since he has received his appointment from President Johnson he has never presented it for ratification to John Bull. In fact, the latter gentleman has a little account to settle with John Savage, and has been "wanting" him this long time.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, May 26.

The Printers' Association of this city has passed a resolution that the employment of women as compositors is injurious to the trade, involving a reduction of wages to the men, and ruin to whole families. At the same time they resolved not to recognise those who have served their time as apprentices in printing-offices where females were employed. This resolution, which reminds one of the palmy days of the ancient guilds, was followed up practically the next day by several compositors in the employ of the printer Schlottke refusing to work in company with a young woman, a relative of their employer. He, however, was not to be bullied or frightened into compliance with their demands, and accepted their resignation. The *Freischütz*, in commenting on this affair, expresses a hope that this example will have no further consequences, as it cannot be denied that men and women both enjoy the equal right to seek employment wherever they can find it, and that a mere difference of sex cannot alter the first law of nature—self-preservation.

At a special general meeting of the Associated German book trade, held last week at Leipzig, it was unanimously agreed to send in petitions to the North German Parliament, the Austrian Parliament, and the Legislative Chambers of South Germany, praying for the abolition of the permission granted to the post-office of those States to collect subscribers for newspapers, as an undue interference with the legitimate branch of their trade.

In consequence of the dangerous illness of Professor Hengstenberg, he has been obliged to relinquish, at least for a time, the editorship of the *Evangelische Kirchen Zeitung*, which has been confided, for the present, to the Rev. Mr. Tauscher, pastor of St. Luke's parish.

Robert Grassman, editor and proprietor of the Conservative *Stettin Zeitung*, has declared himself insolvent, and offers to pay his creditors 18 per cent. at various dates; but this compromise has not received the sanction of the Court of Bankruptcy. It appears that the paper was supported by large subventions from the Prussian Secret Service Fund, and enjoyed also the official advertisements of the Government and the police, notwithstanding which advantages it had the least number of subscribers of all the journals published in the province of Pomerania.

Die Norddeutsche Post is the name of a new fortnightly, published by Emil König, of Berlin. It contains everything of inte-

rest to the departments of the post office, telegraphs, and railways, and is supported by the officials of those departments.

The first number of a new weekly called the *Dramaturgische Wochenschrift*, has appeared at Leipzig, published by J. Klany, and edited by Dr. Silberstein. It aspires to become the recognised organ of everything connected with the theatre in Germany.

Der Wegweiser, the organ of popular education in Germany, edited by Julius Beeger, of Leipzig, and published by Edward Sack, at Berlin, has obtained such a favourable reputation in all circles, that it has been found indispensably necessary to enlarge it on the 1st of May.

Die Frauenarbeit is the title of a new weekly journal published three times a month at Berlin by U. Frank, and edited by Mad. Jeanne Marie de Gayette, Dr. H. Kletke, and Dr. Georgens. Its object is to improve and purify the female taste in matters of art and domestic duties, and thus lead the ladies to the fulfilment of their natural destinations.

A new musical journal has just been started at Mayence by F. W. Wulff. It is called the *Theater und Musik Zeitung für Rhein und Main*, and promises to be a great success.

A rather severe punishment for a very slender cause has just been inflicted by the Prussian Courts of Justice at Hanover. The *Deutsche Volkszeitung* of that city lately contained an article headed "Signalstangen," or "signal posts," accusing the directors of the State railways of carelessness, drawing a parallel between their way of carrying on the service, and that of the late Royal Hanoverian officials, whose system it described as worthy of the confidence reposed in them by the public, and winding up with an opinion expressed that it is now dangerous to travel over the line. For this delinquency a prosecution was instituted against the above-named journal, and the facts being proved, it was decided by the Correctional Court to be an unwarranted slander on the character and honour of the railway officials; and the defendants, who let judgment go by default, were sentenced: Herr Eichholtz, the editor, to pay a fine of a hundred dollars, and the publisher, G. Jacob, a fine of fifty dollars, and the loss of his concession as publisher and printer, in accordance with paragraphs 35 and 36 of the Prussian Press law. The only excuse that can be offered for this severity is that the *Volkszeitung* has certainly made itself obnoxious to Prussia for its staunch adherence and loyalty to the Guelphic dynasty, and thus what was really nothing more than an innocent comparison of two administrations, has been vindictively turned into a crime, and punished by heavy fines and the suppression of the obnoxious journal.

In a former letter I mentioned the case of the *Freischütz*, a local journal of this city, whose circulation in the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg has been prohibited ever since 1853. The proprietor has now sent a petition to the German Parliament, praying for redress on the ground that the Federal Constitution expressly forbids such prohibitions in any of the Confederate States. The petition was referred to the committee for petitions, who have reported that the post office has no right to refuse forwarding any paper from one State to another; but on the other hand that does not interfere with the right of each government to prohibit the circulation of a paper that has made itself obnoxious to the authorities. So that practically it amounts to this: the Post office is bound to convey the *Freischütz* from Hamburg to Mecklenburg at the usual rate of postage, but it cannot be delivered to the address indicated through the prohibition of the local government. This decision has been officially communicated to the proprietor of the *Freischütz*, and there the matter is finally set at rest till he can make his peace with the Government of Mecklenburg, and get his prohibition rescinded.

The King of Prussia has conferred on Dr. Beutner, chief editor of the *Neue Preussische Zeitung*, of Berlin—more generally known by its nickname of the *Kreutz Zeitung*, from its displaying a large vignette of the Iron Cross for bravery—the insignia of the fourth class of the Royal Order of the Crown of Prussia. S.

The *North German Correspondent*, a curious sheet arranged in columns, and numbered consecutively, but printed on one side only, and circulated widely among the English Press (for it is printed in the English language), in the interests of Prussia, continually accuses certain members of the Continental Press of venality. We quote from the No. last received, the following charges against certain journals of being subsidised by the ex-

King of Hanover, which must be taken at their value:—"It is a notorious fact that his interests are defended by a large number of journals in Germany. Indeed, many seem to exist for almost no other purpose. Such are the *Hannoversche Volkszeitung* and the *Hannoversche Landeszeitung* in Hanover, the so-called *Sächsische Zeitung* in Leipzig, the *Bulletin international* in Dresden, and a number of others. Most of the Vienna journals are willing to insert anything sent by his agents on condition of the expenses of printing being paid, and the whole republican and ultramontane Press is open to him, for since he has been dethroned a mutual attachment has sprung up between the ex-King and the demagogues."

BELGIUM.

The editor of the *Nouvelle Tribune du Peuple* has been arrested in his house at Brussels for having sent to one of the men on strike a telegram containing the words, "Courage, courage!"

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, May 25.

Dr. Bernhard von Florencourt, a lay priest, and *de facto* editor of the *Vaterland*, has been arrested in his apartments and thrown into prison, where he will remain for four weeks for an offence of the Press, at the expiration of which he is to undergo four months' more incarceration "for disturbing the peace of the empire." On his appeal to the provisions of Art. XIV. of the Concordat with the Pope, by virtue of which all members of the priesthood are to be tried by the clerical tribunals, the Supreme Court decided that this privilege is abolished by the fundamental law of the State. Cardinal Rauscher, the Papal Nuncio at the Court of Austria, to whom an official copy of the decision was sent, has taken no notice of it, though it was expected he would have entered a strong protest against it.

The *Oesterreichischer Economist*, the organ of the Association for Political Economy in this city, hitherto appearing at uncertain periods, is now published weekly, by Haasenstein and Vogler, of Vienna and Berlin, the new editors being Baron von Sommaruga and Dr. J. Schäffler.

Herr L. A. Zellner having been appointed Secretary-General to the Society of Friends of Music has relinquished his engagement as editor of the *Blätter für Theater, Musik, und Kunst*, his successor being L. Oppenheimer, hitherto sub-editor.

A new Sunday paper, called the *Express*, is now published here, and meets considerable support.

Förster's *Allgemeine Bauzeitung*, that has existed now for thirty years, has changed proprietorship, and now belongs to the bookseller and publisher, Waldheim, at Vienna. Herr A. Koestlin, inspector of the Austrian State railways, well known as a conspicuous member of the Association of Austrian Engineers and Architects, has undertaken the editorship.

On the 1st of May a new Opposition paper appeared at Pesth under the title of the *Neuer freier Lloyd*. It is written in the German language, and published by Herr Jokay.

A new fortnightly, in Italian, is now published at Trieste, called *Marina e Commercio*, devoted to those pursuits. It is edited by Captain Iginio Mikocz, formerly of the Imperial Navy.

The editor of the *Cittadino*, of Trieste, has been tried for libel, and acquitted, the prosecutor having to pay costs.

From Prague we learn that the Czechish journal *Koruna* has been discontinued, with a promise of a new one of the same political tendency. No further explanation is given.

The Czechish political refugee, J. Fric, has discontinued his Czechish journal *Blanik*, published at Berlin, professedly for want of sufficient support to enable him to carry it on with success.

TEUTON.

The International Association of Workmen have just started a journal at Vienna, called the *Voice of the People*. The programme of this journal makes, in fact, a political event of its publication, and demands direct universal suffrage, unlimited right of meeting and of association, unrestricted liberty of the Press, the suppression of permanent armies, and absolute religious freedom. The journal does not conceal its origin, and asserts the solidarity which unites it to the European Working Men's Society.

There has lately appeared at Vienna a publication entitled *Der Keiltreiber* (the wedge driver), to which is added the fol-

peculiar sub-title: "A political, satirical, humorous journal, for the typo-litho-photo-steno-xylo-calli and other graphers, type-founders, stereotypists, and generally for everybody, whomsoever and whatsoever, occupying himself with printing, for or against."

The *Grenzboten*, in their Vienna correspondence, draw a sad picture of the corruption and venality of the Press in that city, and observe that most of the papers may be called industrial undertakings in the worst sense of the word. An honest and independent journal, they say, can hardly live in the Austrian capital and successfully compete with periodicals which accept subventions from every quarter, and are ready in return to produce articles to order. The Press of Vienna had a different reputation during the oriental war; it was respected in Europe, conducted with talent, and animated with patriotism. Even then, notwithstanding, there was one blot on its escutcheon—its criticisms on art and literature were to be bought; but this venality, however much it merits reprobation, was but as dust in the balance when compared with the state of things since the rage for bubble companies has become epidemic, and the celebrated *Rue Quincampoix* seems to have been transported with all its belongings to Vienna.

The *Grenzboten*, in their observations on the past and the present, say:—"The year 1856 has been surpassed a hundredfold in deception and infatuation by 1869. The Vienna journals themselves acknowledge that the intoxication of the public has been much wilder and more insensate in the year of Banks than in that of Credits. Nor do they deny that in the sale and purchase of editorial puffs the former year was nothing in comparison with the latter. For a long time past it has been no secret that the 'preliminary expenses' of all great industrial undertakings have increased in gigantic proportions from year to year, because 'public opinion,' as the puffs of venal journalists are rather facetiously termed, is getting more and more costly, and it is found to be an indispensable requisite, especially for the railways, which must not only have purchasers for their shares but not unfrequently an interest guarantee from the state. One inimical journal can often do a project more harm than ten friendly ones can do it good. The 'founders' must consequently not shirk the expense of putting themselves on a good footing with them all, and when the proprietors and editors are satisfied, then comes the turn of sub-editors and contributors. The books of some defunct companies have brought to light very edifying data with regard to the extent of this sleeping partnership, but it is a thing the attentive newspaper reader must have long ago suspected in seeing the same game repeated with the regularity of clock-work.

The correspondent of the *Grenzboten* maintains there is but one honest and incorruptible paper in Vienna—the *Wanderer*, and he adds that Deputy Skene, the *enfant terrible* of the Opposition, asserted publicly on one occasion that Count Beust had bought all the others.—*North German Correspondent*.

RUSSIA.

The energetic exertions of the National party for the extinction of the German language, and complete Russification of the Baltic provinces, have received a severe check from the spirited conduct of the Estates of Liefland. The three principal representatives of the German Press at Riga, languishing under the heaviest possible pressure of the strictest censorship, Messrs. G. Berkholtz, editor of the *Baltische Monatschrift*, Dr. Bürens of the *Riga Zeitung*, and H. Keuchel, of the *Volksblatt für Stadt und Land*, lately sent in a joint petition to the Provincial Estates, complaining of the injustice imposed on them, and praying for their good offices and intercession with the Imperial Government for as much freedom of the Press as is enjoyed by the two capitals of St. Petersburg and Moscow. That Assembly has now decided with an overwhelming majority, very nearly approaching to unanimity, to make the affair their own, and prosecute their supplication for redress and the full liberty of the Press in the Baltic provinces, if needful, even to the foot of the throne. It will be recollected that when those German dependencies were annexed to Russia, a most solemn promise was exacted from and given by the Emperor Paul, to respect and maintain inviolate all their rights and privileges, among which the liberty of the Press, and the free observance of the Protestant religion, as well as the retention of the use of the German language, were specifically mentioned and guaranteed.

The council of the Russian Empire has sanctioned the Senate's

decision, suppressing the journal called *Moscow*. Only two votes were recorded against the suppression.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, May 25.

The First Chamber of the Swedish Parliament has accepted and confirmed the recommendation of the standing committee, for affairs relating to the constitution making printers of newspapers and periodicals answerable for their contents; and also, at the instance of the same committee, passed a resolution that in the next session of Parliament a further radical alteration and revision of the Press-law shall be gone into. But the Second Chamber, in their evening sitting on the 11th inst., after a lively if not stormy debate, negatived the recommendation of the Constitutional Committee for the responsibility of printers by a large majority of 74 to 44 votes. Among the speakers in favour of the responsibility was Baron von Gripenstedt, and among the members who opposed the measure were the Baron Liliencrantz, leader of the Liberal party, and Magister Hedlund, editor and publisher of the influential Gothenburg *Handels och Sjöfarts Tidning*. With regard to the other recommendations of the Constitutional Committee for a revision of the Press Law, the Second Chamber resolved that the subject should be taken into consideration in the next session of Parliament, and at the same time threw out another proposal, recommended by the Committee, prohibiting newspapers from publishing anything relating to the national defences of the country.

The Committee appointed by the Congress of Swedish journalists last year, to make the needful arrangements for their meeting this summer, has now sent out circulars of invitation, announcing that the Congress will be held on the 12th of June next, at Gothenburg. The period and place appear well chosen, as it will coincide in both respects with the Scandinavian Exhibition of Arts and the annual meeting of Scandinavian Artists and Admirers of the Fine Arts.

NORD.

DENMARK.

Herr C. A. Bille, *Caud. Juris*, the editor of the *Dagbladet*, has been prosecuted before the Aulic Tribunal, at Copenhagen, on a charge of libel preferred against him by the Chamberlain von Heltzen (formerly Baillie of Apenrade, in Schleswig, afterwards for some time Danish Minister of Justice, and now Chief Magistrate of the Bailliwick of Adensee.) The principal charge was for an article contained in the defendant's paper, accusing the plaintiff of selling a piece of justice, which, as minister of that department, it was his duty to preserve inviolate, in order to obtain votes in the Danish Parliament to enable him to pass the 79th paragraph of the Criminal Law; and also of "selling state appointments, and by his duplicity and bad conduct in office forfeiting all claim to confidence from those who set any value on honour and virtue." The Court found the libel fully proven, and sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 200 Danish rix dollars to the Poor Fund of the Metropolis, as well as payment of costs.

Rudolf Varberg, *Caud. Juris*, whose death is announced in our obituary, was intimately connected with the Press at Copenhagen for more than twenty years, having been employed for the first ten years on the editorial staff of the *Dagbladet*, and ever since 1860 as political director of the widely-circulated *Folket-Avis*, holding, at the same time the Government appointment of Judicial Secretary to the Commercial and Marine Tribunal at Copenhagen. During the last five years of his life the deceased was Member of the Second Chamber of the Danish Parliament. He was a very popular writer, and was only forty years of age when he died on the 10th of May.

ROUMANIA.

Amongst the Bills now in preparation to be laid before the Roumanian Parliament on the approaching opening of the session is the draft of a new Press law.

SWITZERLAND.

Die Vereinten Staaten von Europa, the organ of the Peace Society at Geneva, has been discontinued.

BAVARIA.

The editorship of the Munich *Folkboten* has undergone many mutations of late. The first successor of Dr. Siegl was Otto Byrn,

formerly an officer in the Austrian service, who had scarcely been installed in his office when he deliberately committed suicide by poisoning himself, as mentioned in our last impression. The present editor is Herr C. Zander, eldest son of E. Zander, the proprietor of the paper, who lately made his escape to Switzerland to avoid imprisonment for an offence of the Press committed by him. In the meantime, Dr. Siegl, after being refused his *naire* request for permission to suffer his two months' imprisonment at Munich for offending the king of Prussia, in order to conduct the editorship of his new paper, *Das Bayerische Vaterland*, "in a more befitting manner," as he expresses himself, has been removed to the citadel of Passau, on the Danube, for the period of his punishment. The paper, however, continues to be published during his absence, though with a great dearth of news, which is made up for by an abundance of coarse vituperation and passionate excitement. On the 12th of May the above-mentioned fugitive, E. Zander, suddenly arrived at Munich from Switzerland, and surrendered himself, to enter on his six months' imprisonment, having applied for and obtained a week's delay to arrange his private affairs. The explanation of this sudden resolution is that he calculates with certainty on being returned as member for Würzburg at the approaching elections; and if so, he speculates on the clemency of the King for obtaining a full pardon.

The Bavarian Association of Architects and Engineers are making the needful arrangements for the enlargement of their present very modest organ, *Das Notizblatt*, and the alteration of its title to the more dignified one of *Zeitschrift des Bayerischen Architecten und Ingenieur Vereins*. The editor is to be elected and supported by an editorial committee, composed of seven members of the Munich Association, and seven belonging to the Provincial or Branch Associations. The Bavarian Government supports the new undertaking in many ways, not the least important of which is a handsome pecuniary annual subvention.

BOHEMIA.

The *Politik*, a newspaper appearing in Prague, seems to anticipate little advantage to the Czech journals from the introduction of trial by jury in actions against the Press within the jurisdiction of the Austrian Reichstag. In Bohemia, we are told by the paper in question, the longing and struggling for trial by jury in such cases was perhaps more intense than in any other part of Austria, and according to the "free" constitution its establishment should have been long since a *fait accompli*. A law to this effect was announced a year and a half ago, but before it passed and came into force, exceptional measures were considered necessary for Bohemia; numerous condemnations for Press offences had to be pronounced by the existing tribunals, and the law courts and public prosecutors were to make all possible haste to terminate pending actions before the introduction of the new measure. This injudicious exercise at such a moment of the utmost rights of the state, gave birth to a bitterness of feeling which greatly depreciated the value of the new concession in the eyes of the country. Besides this, the law decreeing trial by jury for misdemeanours of the Press contains so many reservations, and has been subjected to such strange interpretations by Government officials, that it is feared its provisions will turn out to be quite as illusory as the "liberty of the Press," and the "free right of holding public meetings and forming societies" have proved to be in Bohemia. As the Czech Opposition journals are much more likely to figure in the dock than the German-Dualist paper, the *Politik* fears that every action against the Press will be a political prosecution, and it complains of the mode of preparing the panel of jurors, which it considers partial and unjust to the Czechs. It also strongly condemns the practice of deciding by lot, in disputed cases, what names are to be placed on the panel, declaring that such a custom is unknown in England. The *Politik* protests, we think with great justice, against the assumption that jurors do not require to understand the Bohemian language. As it would be a miracle if some of the journals written in the Czech tongue were not prosecuted at some time or other, an intimate knowledge of the language must be presupposed in those who are to decide on the true interpretation of the incriminated article or expression, and pronounce the *guilty* or *not guilty* which may save or ruin a man.

TURKEY.

The Greek paper *Neologos* has been suspended for two months for the publication of some very scandalous articles in connection with the recent visit of the Prince of Wales. In mentioning the fact, we are glad to be able to contradict the current report that the Government has acted in the matter on the demand of her Majesty's ambassador. Though the publications which have entailed the suspensions would have well justified complaint—Mr. Elliot—we may venture to surmise—felt that any arbitrary action against the Press would misbecome the British embassy, and therefore with proper taste and dignity left the offending print to the Porte itself and to the just indignation of the public. While we regret that the suspension was ordered arbitrarily, there can be no doubt that if the matter had been first referred to the Press Commission a conviction must have followed, for nothing so scandalous has disgraced the local Press within our experience as the wretched libels which have provoked this summary action of the authorities.—*Levant Herald*.

ITALY.

Baron Ferdinand Swit has just been tried at Venice for an outrage on religion and the propagation of scepticism by an article published in the *Ragione*, and in which he attacked the sacraments of the Eucharist and Baptism. He has been condemned to two months' imprisonment and 600*l.* fine.

UNITED STATES.

New York, May 14.

Libel trials are in fashion here, the same as they seem to be in England. D. O'Neil, of the *Pittsburg Dispatch*, brought an action against John W. Pittock and James Mill, of the *Leader*, and has got a thousand dollars damages; but Captain H. O. Windsor's suit against the San Francisco *Evening Bulletin* for fifty thousand dollars damages terminated in a verdict for the paper. A newspaper correspondent has just brought an action against General Butler for false imprisonment, and lays his damages at thirty thousand dollars.

It is said that the only Boston newspapers which exceed a circulation of thirty thousand copies are the *Herald* and the *Journal*, the former of which circulates upwards of fifty thousand, and the latter forty thousand daily. The *Post* has had one editor, Colonel Greene, for thirty-four years. The value of the *Chicago Tribune* is said to be one million dollars.

I cut the following from the *Advertiser's Gazette*:—Mr. Halde-man now owns the entire press of Louisville. The consolidated *Courier and Journal* is to be the morning paper, and the *Democrat* an evening paper, of the place and the period.

I find it stated in the *Printers' Circular* of Philadelphia that the newspapers of Colorado were lately stopped for want of paper, the roads being blocked with snow, and their supply run out.

The Central Colorado *Herald* prints on bright green paper, the *Transcript* on dirt-coloured, and the *Times* on Manilla sheets.

"Paragrams" is the heading given by a Pennsylvania paper to its collection of small talk.

The *Southern Metropolis* is a new literary venture, published at Baltimore, whose somewhat comprehensive sub-title, *Saturday Review of Politics, Literature, and Art*, sufficiently indicates its scope.

The *Southern Enterprise* comes to its subscribers wrapped in 30-dollar coupons attached to 1,000-dollar Confederate bonds due in 1867.

The proprietors of the New York *Times* were recently offered one million dollars for their establishment, by James Fisk, Jun., of the Erie Railroad.

Manton Marble, proprietor of the New York *World*, and worth several hundred thousand dollars, commenced as a poor man ten years ago, writing dramatic criticisms for the Boston *Traveller*.

The *Mountain City Times* is the name of a new weekly by J. A. Murray, Jun., at Cumberland, Md. It contains thirty-two columns, and is neatly printed and ably edited. Cumberland is a thriving city of 15,000 inhabitants, and will no doubt ably support the new comer.

A new paper, in the German language, to advocate woman's rights, is to be published in New York. It is to be called *Die*

Neue Zeit, and will be conducted by several ladies and gentlemen of acknowledged literary ability.

A new religious weekly journal entitled the *Living Church* will be published in New York at an early date. Its principles will be liberal and progressive, and its literary staff, which contains a long list of able writers, should secure for it a permanent place in journalism.

Newspapers have all moved from Salt Lake City to various points on the Pacific Railway. The *Deseret News*, a Mormon organ, is now the only journal issued in the city.

The Cuban refugees at Key West, Florida, are about to start a newspaper to advocate the revolutionary cause.

Mr. John Lawlor, the founder, and one of the proprietors of the *Sunday Dispatch*, the first Sunday paper published in Philadelphia, died on the 19th April.

A Western paper announces the illness of its editor, piously adding: "All good paying subscribers are requested to mention him in their prayers. The others need not, as the prayers of the wicked avail nothing, according to good authority."

The standard of morals in American journalism is, as you know, not so high that charges of venality against even a distinguished member of the Press can very greatly disturb the public mind, but an unquestionable excitement among all reading classes was created yesterday by an elaborate attack, sustained apparently by original documents, made in the columns of the *Sun* newspaper, by Mr. Charles Anderson Dana, its editor, against Mr. John Russell Young, managing editor of the *New York Tribune*. Mr. Young is charged with having sold the editorial columns of the *Tribune* to Simon Cameron, of Pennsylvania, for a moneyed consideration, and with having, in violation of plighted faith, transmitted the dispatches of the Associated Press (corresponding to Reuter's telegrams) to a daily paper in Philadelphia, of which he was the clandestine proprietor. Moreover, sixthly and lastly, he is denounced because he caused to be inserted in various journals great swelling words of vanity about himself; puffs, in connection with Mr. Charles Dickens, who visited Mr. Young, and thereby reflected immense honour on that peccant journalist, when he, Mr. Dickens, was last in New York. To all which Mr. Young replies by the arrest of Mr. Dana upon a libel suit, wherein the damages are laid at one hundred thousands dollars. This is, indeed, a large sum at which to estimate an editor's reputation. If the question of libel comes to a jury, we shall have, most probably, revelations of a startling description. Mr. Dana's most astounding assertion in his attack on Mr. Young is, that at one time President Grant meditated offering him a seat in the cabinet.—*Standard Correspondence*.

CANADA.

The total number of papers published in the province of Ontario is about 180, of which 15 are daily, the rest weekly or bi-weekly.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

The *Advertiser's Gazette* of New York gives the following as a complete list of the newspapers of the Sandwich Islands:—English: Honolulu, *Hawaiian Gazette*, weekly, Wednesday; 500 circulation. *Commercial Advertiser*, weekly, Saturday; 500 circulation; also good foreign circulation, 700. *The Friend*, monthly; in interest of seamen.—Native: Honolulu, *Ka Au O'Koa*, weekly, Thursday; 3,000 circulation. *Nupepa Kuokoa*, weekly, Friday; 3,000 circulation. *Ka Allanla*, monthly, child's paper, religious; 3,000 circulation.

SINGAPORE.

The *Times* office and other buildings were destroyed by fire on the 16th of February.

ALGERIA.

Mr. Thomson, the principal editor of the *Akhbar* newspaper published at Algiers, has just died in that city.

AUSTRALIA.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* announces the death of Mr. G. R. Morton, son of the dramatist, George Morton, the author of "All that Glitters is not Gold," grandson of the author of "Speed the

Plough," and nephew of Madison Morton. The deceased gentleman was connected with the Press of New South Wales, and had been editor of the *Sydney Punch*. He died of consumption.

INDIA.

There is now a newspaper for the English community nestling in the healthy hills of Bengal. It is called the *Darjeeling Advertiser*, and is published among the Himalayas, within sight of the Chinese posts in Thibet.

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—MAY 6.

(Sittings in Banco before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE and Justices LUSH and HAYES.)

EX PARTE MUNSTER V. THE "SHEFFIELD INDEPENDENT."

Mr. Denman, Q.C., said he applied on behalf of Mr. Henry Munster, a gentleman of the bar and a candidate for the representation of Cashel, in Ireland, at the last election, for a rule calling upon the printer and publisher of the *Sheffield Independent*, to show cause why a criminal information should not be filed against him for libel. It appeared that at the last election for Cashel, Mr. O'Beirne was the successful candidate, Mr. Munster having been defeated, and upon that the latter petitioned against Mr. O'Beirne's return. The election was set aside; Mr. Baron Fitzgerald declaring that Mr. O'Beirne had been guilty of bribery, personally as well as by agents, and also that Mr. Munster was not entitled to the seat on the ground that he had been guilty of bribery by his agents. Mr. Baron Fitzgerald found, in the strongest terms, that there was no evidence that corrupt practices had been committed by or with the knowledge or consent of Mr. Munster. That gentleman had, it appeared, resided for some time at Sheffield, and on the 23rd February last there appeared in the *Sheffield Independent*, the libel of which he complained. The article in question was a very long one, and contained amongst others the following:—

"In the eyes of the people of Cashel it was the question of the highest bidder, and, as Sheffield knows, Mr. Munster is an adept in that art. Mr. O'Beirne appears to have bribed both personally and by his agents. Mr. Munster says that bribery was the one thing he did not do to secure his return, yet the Court adjudged him guilty of bribery and denied him the seat he claims. Mr. Munster's first act on reaching this borough of 204 votes was—of course he had not the slightest intention of corrupting—to open a credit with the Cashel Bank to the amount of £8,000. He told the Court that he did not much mind how his money went, and his actions certainly bear out his words. He bought toys for the children and presents for the elders. He took a whole hotel and two other houses. His hotel bill amounted to £228. His housekeeper disbursed £1,855 for household and other expenses. He gave £500 for the Christian Brothers. Mr. Leah, brother of the Archbishop of Cashel, had £100; James Duane, £106." It also stated that Mr. Munster made many purchases from the shopkeepers. "Watches were his hobby, and he has 400 or 500, but he never gave one to a voter's wife." "That counsel might have been mistaken in saying that between the 18th September and the 31st December his expenses were £6,000, and that the judge declined to give him the seat because he had been guilty of bribery." The learned counsel said the article in fact charged Mr. Munster with that of which he was acquitted by the learned judge, and Mr. Munster in his affidavit denied that he was guilty of corrupt practices, or anything of the kind, and complained of the general misrepresentation which pervaded the whole of the article, and he would be prepared at a future time to prove it.

The Lord Chief Justice said that before the Court granted a criminal information they expected the party applying for it to deny in his affidavit, at all events, the material allegation, and Mr. Munster did not do that. There was no denial of his expenses amounting to £6,000 in three months.

Mr. Justice Lush said the writer of the article had a right to comment on the evidence. He was not bound by the judge's decision.

Mr. Denman said it was strong language to charge this gentleman with bribery when he positively denied it.

The Lord Chief Justice said that taking £8,000 to Cashel, and spending £6,000 in three months, without any explanation, gave the writer a right to say that, although the judge pronounced Mr. Munster not personally responsible for the bribery, yet that he had a right to be dissatisfied with that finding, because a man did not take £8,000 into a borough and spend £6,000 within three months, without having some object in view. A public writer had a perfect right to say that the judge's finding should have been the other way. The applicant's affidavits were much too unsatisfactory on which to grant a rule for a criminal information.

Rule refused.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—MAY 8.

(Sittings in Banco, before the LORD CHIEF BARON and Barons BRAMWELL, PIGOTT, and CLEASBY.)

COX V. LEE.

This was an action for libel arising out of the North Leicester-shire election; the plaintiff being the proprietor and editor of the *Leicester Advertiser*, the defendant being the proprietor of the *Leicester Mail*.

It appeared that the plaintiff, having proclaimed his neutrality with respect to the rival claims of Lord John Manners and Mr. C. H. Frewen, the latter gentleman being the ultra-Protestant candidate, Mr. Frewen publicly charged him with ingratitude, inasmuch as he had lent the plaintiff money when in very straitened circumstances to enable him to purchase his paper. This charge was made the subject of a leading article in the defendant's paper, and the plaintiff was asserted to have been guilty of an offence, namely, ingratitude, "abominated by all true Englishmen." At the trial at Norwich a verdict passed for the plaintiff, with £20 damages, the jury by the verdict being assumed to adopt the plaintiff's version that Mr. Frewen had not so lent him money. The case now came before the Court on argument whether this judgment should not be set aside on the ground that the declaration disclosed no cause of action; and ultimately the further hearing was adjourned until next term.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—MAY 13.

(Sittings in Nisi Prius at Guildhall, before Mr. Baron PIGOTT and a Common Jury.)

SHARON V. TAYLOR.

This was an action for libel. The defendant pleaded that he had published an apology at the earliest opportunity, and paid 40s. into court.

Mr. Digby Seymour, Q.C., and Mr. J. E. Palmer, appeared for the plaintiff; the defendant was not represented.

The plaintiff was a contractor, in the Isle of Wight, who, a few years ago, constructed for the Sandown local board the low level sewer in that part of the island. In August last the sea wall was broken down, and a portion of the brickwork of the sewers was disturbed, the consequence being that Sandown was considerably injured by the flooding of the sewage. The authorities examined the place, and they asserted that the fault was in the original brickwork. In the other court the plaintiff said that the failure arose from the improper manner in which they had altered and repaired some of his work which had been injured on a previous occasion by a break-in of the sea. The libels complained of appeared in the defendant's paper, the *Isle of Wight Chronicle*, published at Sandown, on the 18th of February and 11th of March last, and they described the work of the plaintiff as "disgraceful," and said the town had been irretrievably injured by his "shameful act," and charged him with having perpetrated a job. The action was commenced on the 19th of March, and on the 8th of April an apology was inserted in the paper. Thus an unusually short time had elapsed between the issue of the writ and the trial. The plaintiff said the apology did not actually withdraw the charge, and that it was published too late, as many as three publications of the *Chronicle* having appeared in the interval between the publication of the last libel and the apology.

The Jury, under the direction of his Lordship, found that the apology was not sufficient, and that it was not published at the earliest opportunity. They then returned a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, £20.

EXCHEQUER CHAMBER.—MAY 14.

(Sittings in Error, before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, Justices BYLES, KEATING, SMITH, LUSH, HANNEN, and BRETT.)

PARKES V. PRESCOTT AND ANOTHER.

This case has stood over for judgment, and it involved a point of considerable novelty and importance arising under the libel law. The defendants, Prescott and Ellis, were two of the guardians of the poor for the parish of Marylebone, and an action for libel had been brought against them on the ground that the reports of the meetings of the guardians, published in the *Paddington Times*, and complained of by the plaintiff, were published by their order and request. The libels in question were admitted to be true reports of what transpired, but they contained libellous statements with reference to the plaintiff's daughter. An action was brought against the defendant, and came on for trial before Mr. Baron Martin, when the learned judge directed the jury to find a verdict for the defendant on the point taken by the defendant's counsel, that other evidence than the mere publication of the report was necessary to make the defendants liable. A bill of exceptions was taken to the learned judge's ruling, which came on for argument, when the Court of Exchequer held the ruling was right, and refused the rule for a new trial. The case then came into this court on an appeal from the Court of Exchequer. The defendant Prescott was the chairman of the board, and when the matter in question came before the meeting he expressed an opinion that he hoped the reporters who were present for the local papers would take notice of the scandalous case, and give an outline of it; and Mr. Ellis, one of the guardians, said he hoped publicity would be given to it. The question was whether sufficient evidence had been given upon the trial to connect the defendants with the report, so as to prove that it was authorised by them, and to make them liable for the publication.

The Court was divided in opinion upon the point.

Justices Smith, Keating, and Hannen were of opinion that the learned baron's ruling was wrong. Justices Byles and Mellor were of a contrary opinion. There would, therefore, be a rule for a new trial.

Judgment accordingly.

VICE CHANCELLORS' COURTS.—MAY 22.

(Before Sir R. MALINS.)

ROBSON V. DODDS.

A motion was heard in the Equity Court on the 22nd ult. (before Vice-Chancellor Sir R. Malins), to commit the publisher of the *North of England Advertiser* for contempt of Court in having published, pending the hearing, comments upon the suit of Robson v. Dodds, which was a suit instituted to restrain the directors of the Northern Counties Benefit Building Society, from borrowing money. Mr. Glasse, and Mr. G. Hastings supported the motion. Mr. Cole, and Mr. Martin, for the defendant, contended that the article was inserted in good faith, in discharge of what was considered to be a public duty with regard to a matter of great local interest, and that the nature of the comment was not such as in any way to prejudice the course of justice. The Vice-Chancellor said it was no doubt of the highest importance to the public that the Press should be as much as possible unrestricted, but it was of equal importance that the due administration of justice should not be interfered with by newspaper comments. Proceeding upon the decision of Lord Hardwicke in the well-known case of the *St. James's Evening Post*, which had been followed by Vice-Chancellor Wood in the Titchbourne case, his Honour held that the article in question was calculated to prejudice the public mind against one of the parties to a suit before the case was heard, and therefore amounted to a contempt of Court. Upon the precedent of Mr. Roebuck's case before the Master of the Rolls, the publication of an apology would be made a condition of the Court refraining from committing the defendant, and the order would be that he stand committed, but it would not be enforced for three weeks.

BANKRUPTCY COURT.—MAY 21.

IN RE HARRISON, SPRACKLEY, AND BALDWIN.

The bankrupts, who were newspaper proprietors, of Southwark-bridge-road, attribute their failure to losses by printing and pr

lishing the *South London Chronicle* and by bad debts. The preliminary list returns debts of £268.

This was the first sitting, and the usual formal proceedings were completed.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, DUBLIN.

(Before the Full Court.)

REV. J. MAWE V. RICHARD PIGOTT.—ALLEGED LIBEL.

In this case, which is an action brought by the Very Rev. Father Mawe, parish priest of Tralee, against the proprietor of the *Irishman* newspaper, for an alleged libel published on him in a leading article of that journal in reference to the plaintiff's connection with The O'Donoghue, M.P., during the recent election proceedings, counsel appeared in support of a demurrer to the summons and plaint. The portion of the alleged libel mainly relied on was, "Otherwise he (The O'Donoghue) never would have a Mawe for his chairman, and have heard him declare that men who gave up all—life, liberty, and home—for what they deemed the sacred cause of old Ireland were guilty of infamous conduct." The demurrer was to the summons and plaint, on the ground that the publication in question was not libellous. Mr. Butt, Q.C., and Mr. Cleary appeared in support of the demurrer. Mr. Heron, Q.C., Mr. O'Hagan, Q.C., and Mr. Neligan appeared in support of the summons and plaint. They argued that the publication in question was calculated to detract from the character and interfere with the comfort of the plaintiff (who denied that he used the words attributed to him in the publication), and that it was, therefore, a libel on him.

The Court allowed the demurrer, and gave judgment for defendant.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER, DUBLIN.—TRINITY TERM.

(Before the Chief Baron and Baron Fitzgerald.)

A. M. SULLIVAN V. EDWARD DONNELLY.

Mr. Dowse, Q.C., M.P., applied on behalf of the defendant, that a commission do issue to Joseph John Merriman, solicitor, Cheap-side, London, and to Richard Nicholas Howard, solicitor, Portland, for the examination of Thomas Clarke Luby and Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa, prisoners at present in the convict prisons of Chatham and Portland. The action is brought by Mr. A. M. Sullivan, proprietor of the *Nation*, for a libel published by the defendant in the paper called the *Flag of Ireland*. The innuendoes put on the libel were that the plaintiff went out of his way to give information to the Government against Luby and Rossa, and that in consequence matters took place which led to their arrest. The defences were a denial that the articles were libels, a denial of the defamatory sense imputed, and a plea of fair comment. The defendant alleged that Luby and Rossa were material and necessary witnesses; that he was advised he could not go to trial without their evidence; and further, that he had recently received communications from both of them stating that they could give valuable evidence in relation to the action.

The Court granted the application, the commission to be returnable on the last day of term.

SULLIVAN V. PIGOTT.

This action is also brought by Mr. Sullivan against Mr. Richard Pigott, for a libel alleged to have been published in the *Irishman* newspaper.

Mr. Walker, on the part of the defendant, applied for time to plead.

THE DILKES.—Charles Wentworth Dilke is a name that has been held successively by three generations. Charles Wentworth Dilke *primus* was a splendid specimen of the fine old English gentleman. He was a massive, but comely-looking man, with a splendid brow and face, and he looked the autocrat that he was as editor of the *Athenæum*. He was intimate with Wordsworth, Southey, Coleridge, Macaulay, and, in fact, a host of literary men, most of whom have passed away. After his death, the editor and part proprietor of the *Athenæum* was again a Charles Wentworth Dilke (he whose death has been lately announced), and who a few years afterwards handed over the editorship to his friend, Mr. Hepworth Dixon. The son of the deceased baronet, and the third Charles Wentworth, is member for Chelsea.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. CHARLES WESCOMB.

THE fair city of Exeter, by the death of her high sheriff, Charles Wescomb, Esq., proprietor of the *Exeter and Plymouth Gazette*, the *Daily Telegram*, the *Edinburgh Courant*, the *Maidstone Journal*, and, until very recently, of the *London Globe*, has lost a citizen of whom she might well be proud. Born of poor parents in Paris-street, he was educated in one of the public schools of St. Sidwell's. At the age of eleven he kept the cholera books of the visitation of 1832, and, when yet a very young man, was appointed to the schoolmastership of Budleigh Salterton. Being quick at figures, he got employment to keep the accounts of several mining enterprises, and into this class of speculation he entered, and soon realised a handsome fortune. On the death of Mr. Edward Woolner, the proprietor of the *Exeter Gazette*, Mr. Wescomb, then an accountant and stockbroker, was employed to wind up the estate, and ten years ago became the purchaser of the paper. An ardent Conservative, he soon entered warmly into newspaper enterprise, successively becoming the proprietor, by purchase, of the *Maidstone Journal*, the *Edinburgh Courant*, and, exactly two years ago, the *London Globe*, which he immediately converted from an old Whig paper, many years in the interest of Lord Palmerston, to a Conservative organ, advocating Mr. D'Israeli and his party. On that occasion he removed from Exeter to London. But he had undertaken too much. With an almost romantic attachment to his native city, he still interested himself in its public charities and institutions, and would always "run down" to Exeter if his presence might be useful—the next day, perhaps, called to Edinburgh on the business of his northern paper, making a detour to Maidstone to see after the journal in that town, and rushing back to London to take up arrears of business on the *Globe*. Nature gave him warning that he was killing himself with work, and a month ago, he parted with the *Globe* and returned with his family to his beloved Exeter. His reappearance among his old fellow-citizens was hailed with delight, and they at once voted him to the distinguished office of High Sheriff. In pursuance of his intention of giving himself more ease, he was about transferring the active management of his other papers, and resuming his old occupation in "dear old Exeter," as he fondly called it. When on a flying visit to London, he was on the 7th ultimo struck with apoplexy at the Salisbury Hotel, in Fleet Street, and, lingering without consciousness through the night, died on the following day, at the early age of 48, of, no doubt, an overworked brain, for some time predisposed to congestion, leaving a widow and large family at home at Exeter. The respectful honours paid to his remains on their interment at St. Sidwell's do credit to the inhabitants of Devonshire. The shops of Exeter were mostly closed, and business almost entirely suspended. Funeral sermons, in which he was spoken of in the most affectionate terms, were preached in every church on the following Sunday; and though he was a strong partisan, so fairly had he fought for his cause, that the journals of all parties paid most high testimony to his worth and character. We have before us, as we write, the regretful articles of the *Exeter Flying Post*, *Western Times*, *Evening Express*, *Western Daily Standard*, *Western Morning News*, and *Western Daily Mercury*,—all from his own district, expressing the feeling which pervades the West of England at his premature death. We understand that the *Exeter Gazette* will continue under the management of his partners, Mr. Donnithorpe and Mr. Brodie; the *Maidstone Journal*, under that of his partner, Mr. Smith; and the *Globe* will be in the hands of Mr. Marwood Tucker, a Devonshire gentleman, who was one of Sir Stafford Northcote's private secretaries during his administration of the India office.

MR. PETER CUNNINGHAM.

The death is announced of Mr. Peter Cunningham, whose name is well known in connection with various branches of literature. He died at his residence in the New London-road, St. Albans, Herts, on the 18th ult., in his 54th year. Mr. Cunningham was the third son of Allen Cunningham, the poet, and was born in Pimlico, on the 7th of April, 1816, and educated at Christ's Hospital, London. He was appointed by the late Sir Robert Peel, as a mark of his esteem for the talents of his father, to a clerkship

in the Audit Office in 1834, and in 1854 became chief clerk of that department of the public service, from which he retired about the year 1860, and took up his residence at the ancient town of St. Albans, where there was a coterie of quasi literary society, among whom were Frederick Dickens, John Reeve the actor (son of the great John Reeve), and some local professors. Cunningham, Dickens, and Reeve are now all gone—the latter died recently in a tramps' lodging-house in the town, having got too "fast" for his whilom comrades, and Mr. Cunningham has, by long and severe illness, been compelled for the past three years to abjure society.

For some years Peter Cunningham wrote the town notes of the *Illustrated London News*, and in the course of his retirement at St. Albans was a frequent (honorary) contributor to the *Herts Advertiser* and *St. Albans Times*. He is best known to the public by his valuable "Handbook of London;" but is the author or editor of several other works, of which the following is the order of publication:—"The Life of Drummond of Hawthornden," with large selections from his poetical works (1833); "Songs of England and Scotland" (2 vols., 1835); the single volume editions of Campbell's "Specimens of the British Poets," with additional lives and specimens (1841); "The Handbook of Westminster Abbey" (1842); "The Life of Inigo Jones," for the Shakespeare Society (1848); "The Handbook of London" (2 vols., 1849; second edition in 1 vol., 1850); "Modern London" (1851); Prefatory Memoir of J. M. W. Turner to John Burnett's "Turner and his Works" (1852); "The Story of Nell Gwynn" (1852); "The Works of Oliver Goldsmith," for Murray's "Library of British Classics" (4 vols. 1854); and Johnson's "Lives of the Poets," for the same work (3 vols., 1854); and the "Letters of Horace Walpole" (9 vols., 1857-9). He was subsequently engaged on a new edition of Pope, in conjunction with the Right Hon. J. W. Croker. Mr. Cunningham has also been a large contributor to periodical literature. In 1842 Mr. Cunningham married Zenobia, second daughter of John Martin, the distinguished painter of "Belshazzar's Feast."

MR. TOULMIN SMITH.

Entirely different as were the two men in most respects, there were some points of resemblance between Mr. Wescomb and Mr. Toulmin Smith. Both were enthusiastically attached to their native towns, both hoped to return and end their days in the places of their nativity; both were doomed to breathe their last far away from the cherished spots.

Mr. Toulmin Smith was the eldest son of the late Mr. William Hawkes Smith, who, forty or fifty years ago, occupied a prominent place in all the good works of Birmingham. The family to which he belonged held honourable positions in the town for five hundred years. One of his ancestors formed one of the original founders of Deritend Chapel, in 1381, and some of the property in Deritend—the Old Crown House, for example—had descended in an unbroken line with all its old documents complete, for nearly five hundred years.

Mr. Toulmin Smith was born in Birmingham on 29th May, 1816, and thus in a few weeks would have completed the 53rd year of his age. From his father's precept and example he had early gained a love of literature, and a devotion to public work. In 1826, while yet a mere youth, he had, with his father's permission, prepared and published "A Popular View of the Progress of Philosophy among the Ancients," and had even previously written "An Introduction to the Latin Language," but these early works, although displaying remarkable industry and literary skill, were disowned by the maturer judgment of their author in after years.

Although called to the bar in 1849, Mr. Smith's literary tastes continued, and his untiring industry induced him to explore new fields in literary research. In an age when such matters were little studied, his Anglo-Saxon instinct led him to the study of the Northern literature, whence our own civilisation came. He studied Icelandic, Danish, Norse, and familiarised himself with the Eddas, Sagas, and mythology of the North.

The author of many historical and antiquarian works, a Parliamentary barrister, an active member of the parochial board of Hornsey, in which parish, at Highgate, he resided for twenty years, an indefatigable collector in geology, mineralogy, and natural history; he was also an almost constant contributor on archaeology and literature to the *Birmingham Daily Post*. His

health had been failing since an attack of sunstroke in July, 1868, and he was advised to seek some quiet retirement and temporary relaxation from labour, and accordingly visited Lancing, on the coast of Sussex. While bathing, it is supposed, he was seized with cramp, and his body was washed ashore perfectly lifeless.

SIR C. WENTWORTH DILKE.

Sir C. W. Dilke's closest connection with the Press, was being the son of the founder, and himself one of the proprietors, of a successful literary journal, the *Athenæum*. He was born on the 18th of February, 1810, and was educated at Westminster, and at Trinity College, Cambridge. For a short time he studied law, but afterwards gave up his time to the affairs of some of the leading learned societies, in the course of which connection, he formed an acquaintance with the late Prince Consort, which led to court favour, and honours falling thickly on him. He died somewhat suddenly at St. Petersburg.

MR. GEORGE RAYMOND.

The death is announced of Mr. George Raymond, proprietor and editor of the *Kerry Evening Post*. Mr. Raymond was born in the year 1819, and was consequently in the fiftieth year of his age. For the last thirty years he has been prominently known to the public as the conductor of the conservative organ of Kerry.

MR. CHARLES B. SEYMOUR.

We record with sorrow the untimely death of Mr. Charles B. Seymour, for some years past the musical and dramatic editor of the *New York Times*. Mr. Seymour expired on Sunday, the 2nd May, at his home in Union-square, of what is called rheumatism of the brain. He was a young man still, not yet 40, having been born, in London, December 13, 1829, and was thus cut off in the prime of his usefulness. His singular fitness for the position he filled, his scholarship, taste, and refinement, added to his kindness of heart and unvarying gentleness of manner, were highly appreciated. The funeral took place from Grace Church on the 5th, and was numerously attended. Mr. Seymour's case furnishes another example of writing men succumbing to diseases of the brain—a fresh warning against overwork of a sort perhaps more dangerous than any other.

Home Subjects.

The London Printers' Journal has ceased to exist.

A NEW Low Church periodical is announced, entitled *The Latter Rain*.

A NEW daily paper in the Permissive Bill interest is to be started in Newcastle.

AMONG recent new class papers are the *Freemason* and the *Cricketer*.

MR. CHARLES G. LELAND has, we believe, just arrived in France by the *Periere*. This distinguished American journalist and author is, perhaps, better known in Europe as Hans Breitman. Mr. Leland will probably remain in Europe for two years to recruit his health.

THE Provincial Newspaper Proprietors' Society held its annual meeting at the Crystal Palace on the 25th, Mr. Harper, proprietor of the *Huddersfield Chronicle*, in the chair. Upwards of twenty new members were elected, the total number now nearly reaching two hundred.

STOPPAGE OF THE "EXPRESS."—We regret to announce the stoppage on the 31st of April of this respectable evening paper. It was established in 1846 as the evening satellite of the *Daily News*. The price had recently been reduced from twopenny to one penny.

MR. EDWARD WILLMER, who has been more or less connected with newspaper matters in Liverpool for half a century, died on the 6th ult. at his residence, Windsor House, Huyton, at about 76 years of age.

REMARKABLE INCREASE OF PRINTERS' "DEVILS."—There are only four printers and booksellers in the town of Bishop Auckland, and the newspapers of that town of the 9th May recorded only four births, and singularly enough, the four mothers of those four children were the four wives of those four printers.—*Newcastle Chronicle*.

THE "DERBYSHIRE COURIER" appeared on the 15th of May at the reduced price of one penny. This journal was established at the price of sevenpence in 1828, and was "the first newspaper ever published in North and East Derbyshire."

SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH RATES.—On and after June 1st, the Atlantic Telegraph Company will reduce the price of their Press messages to half rates. This will practically be a reduction from 6s. 9d. to 2s. per word.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. THOMAS JOYCE.—Mr. Thomas Joyce, formerly on the editorial staff of the *Morning Chronicle*, and more recently editor of the *Levant Herald*, dropped dead on the 7th ult., in a fit of apoplexy in the Strand. He was in his fifty-sixth year.

NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND FESTIVAL.—The arrangements for the annual dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund, which is to take place on Saturday, June 5, at Willis's Rooms, are sufficiently advanced to justify the managing committee in believing that the sixth anniversary will prove at least equally successful as any of its predecessors. Up to yesterday nearly forty members of the House of Peers and Commons had intimated their intention of supporting by their presence Lord Houghton, who takes the chair, in consequence of the retirement of Mr. Reverdy Johnson from the United States legation, and his return to America; and, as on previous occasions, distinguished representatives of arts, science, and literature, indeed of nearly all the professions, express their desire to take part in the proceedings. The musical programme, proverbially excellent at the Press Fund dinner, will be of the most attractive character. Mr. Benedict kindly presiding, and various artists of eminence gracefully volunteering their services.

NEWSVENDORS' PROVIDENT AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—The annual meeting of this charity was held on the evening of the 27th ult. at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street; Mr. G. W. Jones occupied the chair. The secretary (Mr. W. Jones) read the report, which stated that the institution was now receiving more general support from the news-vending trade, and its funds were increasing, thus enabling the committee to increase the amount of temporary relief and add another pensioner to the seven who at present received annuities. The receipts for the year had been £477 1s. 9d., and the expenditure, including pensions and grants in relief, to £399 8s. 11d., leaving a balance of £77 12s. 10d. The report was adopted, and, after several complimentary votes of thanks to the officials had been agreed to, one pensioner was elected, and the proceedings terminated.

NEW JOURNALS.—The *Continent* is to be a journal of foreign affairs, political and social. The *Temperance Times*, a new weekly organ of the London Auxiliary of the United Kingdom Alliance, has appeared, and is edited by Dawson Burns. *Ben Brierley's Journal* commenced last month, and is, as the name indicates, to be under the management of that genial Lancashire lad whose writings are well known to our Northern friends at least.

THE *Sherborne Journal* is now issued on Tuesdays at 2d., and on Thursdays at 3d.; and the proprietor says:—"The long career of the *Sherborne Journal* has been a course of success. Its firmly established circulation among classes to whom price is no object, would secure to us for our lifetime, in all probability, the same settled and satisfactory business. We prefer, however, the wider field which invites us; nor do we desire to conceal (even from the Income Tax Commissioners) our belief that the grafting of a large additional number upon our old-established circulation, will be attended with an increased measure of pecuniary success."

THE "LONDON IRISHMAN," the town edition of the *Universal News*, asserts in its issue of May 8th that the editor has received notice that he is marked out for assassination. The alleged letter is made the text for some "tall" writing, among which is the following:—"The *Sic semper tyrannis* of Wilkes Booth may live for a generation, for he killed a great man; but how can the silly and crack-brained — expect to perpetuate his name by murdering a mere Irish editor? A fool's overweening vanity and desperate efforts at achieving popularity may no doubt drive him to extremes, but a member of the Pope's Brigade and a cleric in minor orders ought to consider it beneath him to waste his shot on such small game as ourselves. We assure him beforehand—and let him take honest advice—not to waste his shot until he gets more noble quarry. Are there no Cabinet Ministers or luxurious prelates of quantity, as well as quality, worth swinging for? It is

hard, however, to reason with a fool who is bent on mischief. Like forked lightning, there is no knowing where the discharge of a lunatic's wrath will strike."

WILLIAM JERDAN.—We are happy to read in the *Bookseller* of last month that Mr. Jerdan, the founder of the *Literary Gazette*, and at one time editor of numerous country papers, is "still vigorous; his intellects are unimpaired by time, and he is at the present moment engaged upon the manuscripts of his old friend Samuel Lover, whose unpublished works he is preparing for the Press." He contributed an article called "The Greatest Wonder" to *Frazer's Magazine* for April, and, we may add, is publishing a series of letters of men of note, "with fac-similes of their signatures in the *Leisure Hour*. Mr. Jerdan completed his eighty-seventh year on the 17th of April.

Notes and Queries.

A. R. M.—The parties are swindlers; have nothing to do with them.
PHILIP.—See the article in the present No. on the Law of Libel. It answers your query.

Obituary.

DILKE, SIR CHARLES WENTWORTH, son of the founder and many years editor of the *Athenaeum*.

HARPER JAMES, one of the proprietors of *Harper's Weekly* and other papers at New York.

JOYCE, THOMAS, formerly on the editorial staff of the *Morning Chronicle*, and latterly editor of the *Levant Herald*, suddenly in London, on the 7th May, aged 55.

LAWLOR, JOHN, founder and proprietor of the *Sunday Dispatch* of Philadelphia.

MÜLLER, JOHANN CONRAD, M.D., for many years an industrious contributor to various Danish scientific journals.

MUSCHANSKA, MRS. ROSALIE, authoress and regular contributor to *Gutzkow's Unterhaltungen am Hauslichen Herde*, at Dresden.

RAYMOND, GEORGE, editor of the *Kerry Evening Post*.

SEYMOUR, CHARLES B., musical and dramatic editor of the *New York Times*.

SIMPSON, JOHN, sub-editor of the *Manchester Courier*.

SMITH, TOULMIN, many years a literary and antiquarian contributor to the *Birmingham Press*, and author of several learned treatises.

THORE, THEOPHIL, art critic, and writer of the art correspondence in the *Independence Belge*, at Paris.

THOMPSON, C., editor of the *Akhbar*, at Algiers.

VARRBERG, RUDOLF, editor of the *Folkets Avis*, at Copenhagen.

WESCOMB, CHARLES, proprietor of the *Globe*, the *Edinburgh Courier*, *Maidstone Journal*, and the *Exeter Gazette*, on the 8th ult., suddenly.

WILLMER, EDWARD, of Liverpool, more than twenty years proprietor of the *European Times*, summary paper, 6th ult., aged 76.

WOLFF, DR. CARL, for many years connected with the Press in Wurtemberg, at Stuttgart.

WOODS, THOMAS S., editor of the *Ohio Patriot*, at Salem, March 26th.

BANKRUPTS.

HARRISON, HENRY, SPRATLEY, MICHAEL WILLIAM, & BALDWIN, THOMAS, Southwark Bridge-road, newspaper proprietors.

BAGGALL, CHARLES, Burton-upon-Trent, newagent.

RYLAND, GEORGE, Birmingham, iron and metal broker and newspaper proprietor.

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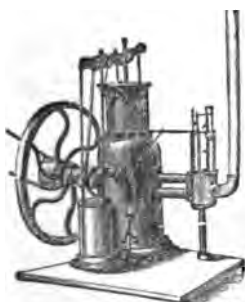
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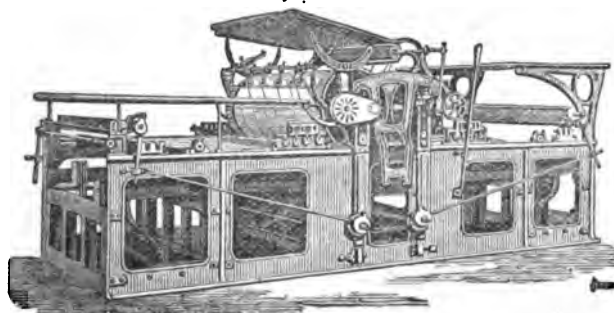
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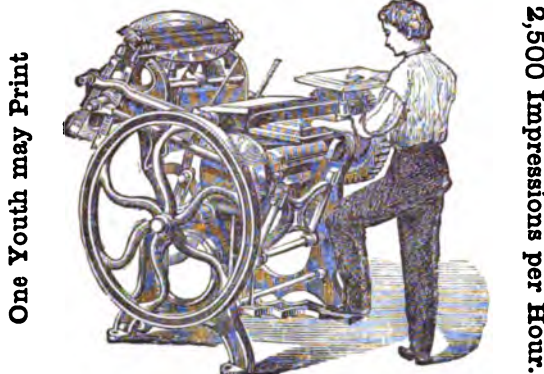


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31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

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Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

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Hallifax, 23rd October, 1867.

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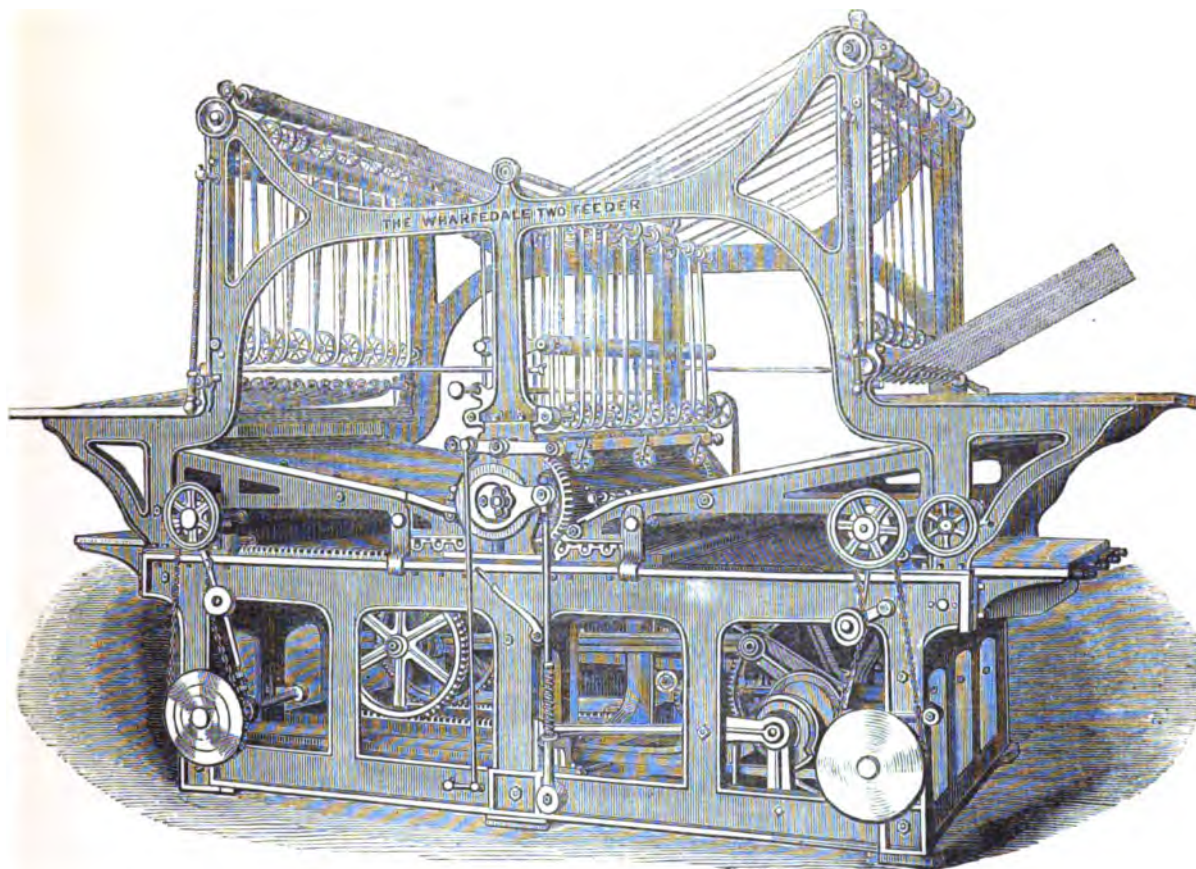
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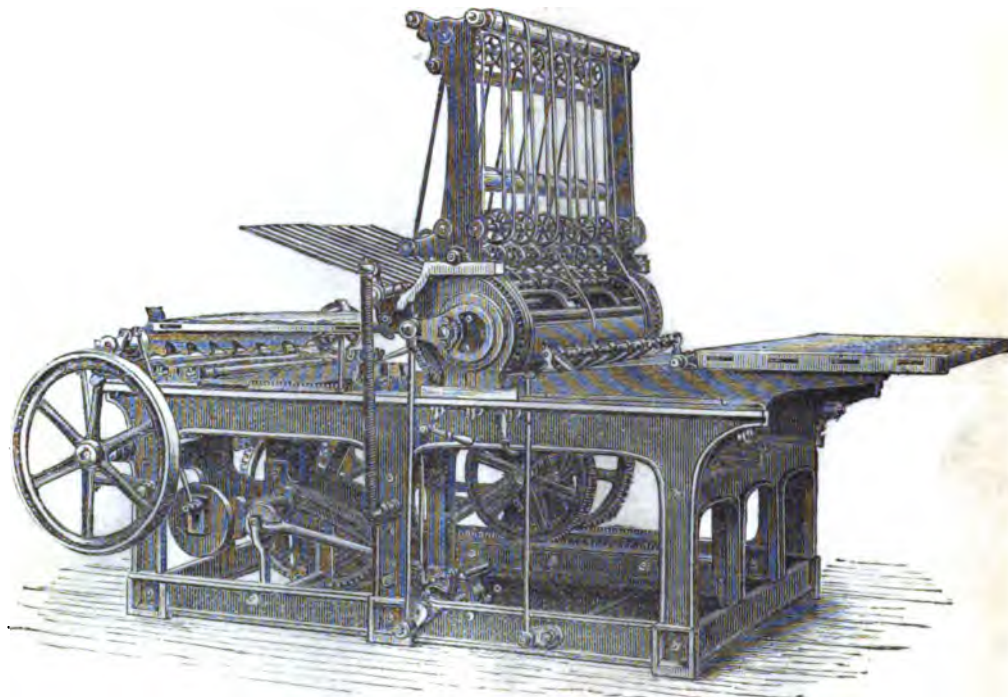
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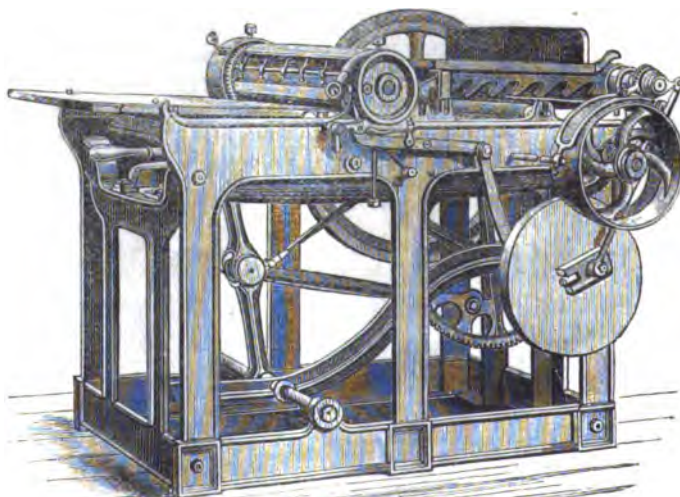
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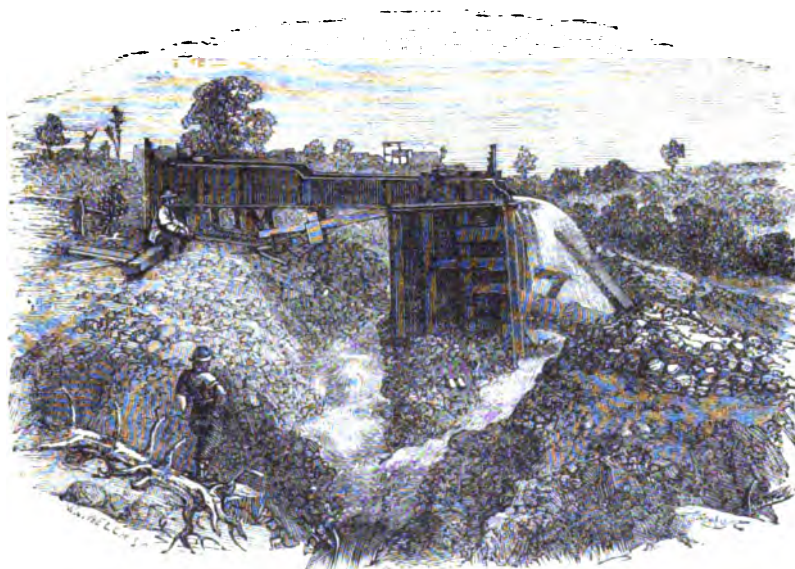
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In the House of Lords, May 31st, the Marquis of Lansdowne moved the second reading of the Newspaper Law Amendment Bill. In doing so he pointed out that it repealed a number of obsolete and useless acts, the principal of which was the 39th George III., cap. 79, which required that the clerk of the peace should register all printers and type-founders, and that any person delivering a lecture to which he charged admission, in a room not licensed for that purpose, should be liable to penalties for doing so; and another enactment passed in 1819, requiring all persons who printed a newspaper or pamphlet to enter into recognisances and find sureties. Those acts had been framed in times of much danger, with the purpose of coercing newspapers into a fictitious state of loyalty. No cause for taking such a course now existed, however. Newspapers were placed under sufficient bonds by the law of libel, and there was no reason whatever why they should be treated on a wholly different footing to other literature. He maintained that the difference between books and newspapers was not one of kind, but of degree; and it was therefore an act of marked injustice to impose upon the latter exceptional restrictions. Those enactments formed part of a system of legislation that had now passed away, and as the stamp duties and other restrictions on the Press had been removed, these too ought to follow them. Beyond all that he thought that upon broader grounds it was their duty to relieve the Press of restrictions of so invidious a character. The Press of England deserved more credit for its social and dynastic loyalty than that of any other country, and it was therefore unreasonable and unwise to continue the imposition of these antiquated restrictions.

Lord Cairns had no intention of opposing the Bill. He believed that, as the noble marquis had said, the acts of parliament mentioned in the schedule of the Bill were obsolete, that they had fallen into disuse, that they were parts of a legislation that really had passed away, and that whenever any action had been taken under them it had been of a spasmodic kind, and in order to gratify personal feeling rather than to further the ends of justice.

The Lord Chancellor agreed with what had fallen from his noble friend.

The Duke of Somerset, as one of the trustees of the British Museum, pointed out the necessity of continuing the collection of newspapers in that establishment for the purposes of reference, and thought that such collection would be interfered with by one of the clauses of the Bill. With regard to the Bill itself, he thought the

better course would have been to repeal all the old acts and introduce a new enactment altogether.

The Marquis of Lansdowne believed that under the present Bill the arrangement with respect to the British Museum would stand on a better footing than it did at the present time. With regard to the repeal of the old acts, and the substitution of an entirely new measure, the introduction of new machinery would have been a very laborious process.

The Bill was then read a second time.

Two months ago, in the May number of the NEWSPAPER PRESS, a paragraph appeared (for which it is our first duty to acknowledge our obligations to Mr. P. L. Simmonds, one of the most enthusiastic collectors of newspaper lore, who has contributed much valuable information to our columns), calling attention to an old Act of George II., subjecting to heavy penalties any newspaper proprietor who published an advertisement for the recovery of stolen property, with the *addenda*, "No questions will be asked." This Act—the 28th of George II., cap. 19, sec. 1.—has remained so long in abeyance as to have been almost lost sight of, and has not been acted upon for many years till last month, when an application to enforce its penalties was made. At a time when a Bill has been drawn out and brought into the House of Commons for the repeal of several almost obsolete acts affecting the Press, it is to be deplored that the paragraph which appeared in this journal two months ago did not catch the eyes of the framers of the Bill, who we are proud to know are readers of our paper, or of the promoters of it, among whom we can number at least two old and zealous friends.

MEN OF THE PRESS.

By CYRUS REDDING.

XIX.—HORACE SMITH.

EARLY known as one of the authors of the "Rejected Addresses," in connection with his brother James, Horace Smith, or as he would have it, "Horatio," was also understood to have been connected with Cumberland in writing in the papers and periodicals of that popular author. During this connection with Cumberland, Croker, afterwards secretary to the Admiralty, offered his services in prose or verse for two guineas per week. The head of the firm, however, declined his aid, even at that low rate. Croker was reserved for an Irish borough, and became an M.P. by the "usual treasury means," during the time previous to the union, when talent was at a discount among the managers of that measure. How Croker was returned, the volume of the Duke of Wellington's dispatches, published by his son, the present Duke, very clearly explains. Cumberland would not have the "Talking Potato" for his paper, or any other of his undertakings, for so Cumberland designated him.

The paper commenced by Cumberland did not long continue in being; but it was the means of Smith's being initiated in the craft at that moment so obnoxious to certain parties in the State. He himself wrote an account of this commencement of his career in Cumberland's publication.

To begin at the beginning, Horace, or as he would call himself, "Horatio," wrote some notes and incidents descriptive of his earlier feelings and habits, which make known the inner man to the minutest point. In general, authors endeavour to put a flattering construction upon all which touches themselves; there was in Horace Smith, however, something above the common rate-going of an author's pen, when speaking of himself; and he must have the credit of despising those little oblique touches to crave credit, even when the credit is really of little worth in itself, either to secure praise or attract commiseration, to carry commendation or generate applause. The mind of Horace Smith was above those underhand modes of seeking that petty modicum of praise which is so precious to the grounding.

He was the son of a man of trade in London, and in the same

place commenced business as a stockbroker on his own account. In some sketches of his earlier life he displayed much original humour. He kept a journal, not only recording dry facts, but depicting his ideas and feelings, as his memory indulged him with the power of recalling them. Thus by means of the Press they had a chance of being preserved. "By the Press," as he described it, "that wonderful power," which "by means of certain hieroglyphics and a black liquid, is capable, after a lapse of years, of penetrating through the eyes into the sensorium, and recalling from repose recollections which, but for such a summons, would have remained in eternal slumber."

He confessed that he had been stupid when a boy, but thought that, at last, he was rid of some of his dulness; at least before he put on the *toga virilis*. He very rarely got into scrapes, for he was not irascible. He always spoke of his school days as including a period of unmingled horror, under the old spirit-depressing system of our monkish grammar schools, extremely limited, as they were, in useful knowledge, ignorant of science, cloaked up in prejudices, and lacking acquaintance with the most necessary qualifications in the present state of society.

He boasted still that he was able to keep at the head of his class, but confessed that he was always in dread of his schoolfellows from a natural timidity. He was also made miserable by the tormenting of his fellow scholars, to which was added the continued terrors of the master's scourge, and distaste of the coarse viands on which he was fed. His feelings were at that time acute. He was by no means of a robust constitution, while his mind was still more sensitive than his bodily frame. This experience in his schooldays made him remark that he could not, in after life, send a child to school without recalling with pain the period he had passed under a similar mode of tuition.

The times have changed since, except in some of the orthodox old schools which continue the same routine of useless acquirement and obsolete verbiage. Smith said in after life that he could never discover what had been gained by the practice of disgusting the scholar with his learning. Yet the old "church and king" manner of instruction is not yet abolished, though the improvements in instruction have been considerable, as regards the great end of all the old learning, in reading the classics. Even the country gentlemen partake in the improvement to a considerable extent.

Smith had a great affection for the Press. He had an idea that it was the only thing the ancients wanted to throw them forward in the world for a term of ages too great to be counted. We were together one day at Penshurst, in those hallowed apartments, at that little changed from the day of "Sidney's sister Pembroke's mother"—in fact we were passing through the rooms in their old state, and looking upon portraits now "immortal in story," and as yet extant in the same aged canvas, it is presumed, when Smith opened in a way in which I never heard him do before. He was the only man in a pretty long experience of the characters of men that I ever saw combine traffic and its coarse appliances successfully with a mind highly refined. In fact, he made it seem as if he were an accident, a waif from the exchange, an accidental refugee from the ledger and cash book. He had none of the lust of money, as being life's chief good. He seemed to do his city work by compulsion, and he was called a fool there for giving up business, but he said he was content to be in possession of the means of living, without low labour of that kind. It was his only aim. Soon after he told the present writer of the circumstance. The crash that followed in 1825 is yet remembered, when he retorted upon those who had censured his retirement so short a time before, as to the wisdom of the step he took. It was then, or soon after, while resident at Tunbridge Wells, that we took walks to the many "noted places" in the vicinity, and there are many such. One day he spoke of Knoll, as we paced the fine grounds of that forsaken place, and Smith declared it was more his own than the Duke of Dorset's. "I enjoy my walks in that fine demesne, and do not pay one penny towards keeping it in order. The family never come there, and if they do, they can do no more with it than I do, at least in the way of pleasure. These green shades are mine for enjoyment, what more can I want of them, or the owner either?"

"Latin to me?" said Smith one day, "it was no doubt becoming in me to keep up my stock. So when put into a

merchant's office in the city I kept up my knowledge of it by the £ s. d. at the top of the columns in my petty cash book. My Greek served me to compare the samples of the honey of Mount Hymettus, or that of Hybla and its lusciousness with the West India sugar samples on the shelves over my head. What a change," said he, "from Mount Parnassus and rambles through the flowery vale of Hermus, in company with nymphs, fauns, and dryads, and a murky city counting-house, where wharfingers and brokers, seamen and porters, supplied the place of those glorious old divinities."

"Amidst these dingy realities I was not wanting in a desire to please my employer, and I got at last to be 'exalted' to what was called a 'pulpit desk.' There I stood from nine in the morning until eight at night, with three enormous account books, which I was employed in posting up, while distinguished with the honourable appellation of 'book-keeper.'

"After eight o'clock at night, my time was my own. I cared little for routs or parties; I soon began to read in bed, and in reading, nothing came to me amiss. I discovered in one work, what I thought a mistake in heraldry, and I wrote to the editor of the 'Gentleman's Magazine' about it, covering four sides of writing paper. The article was inserted, but I was hurt at seeing so little made of it, not being then aware how much type shortens penmanship, from being a novice in the art of printing."

Here then he became committed to type. Again he appealed, not in vain, to "Silvanus Urban, gentleman." He was twenty years of age, had read old romances, from Gambevillio to the Arcadia of Sidney. He had dived into Leadenhall-street, and developed the secrets of the Minerva Press, which for morality at least, rivalled the present sensation stuff, and perhaps outshone it. The "Victims of Virtue," the "Agonies of Felicia," the "Haunted Tower," and "Monk," of Lewis, which last by the by is re-appearing. These volumes perused, Smith found them begin to pall on his appetite upon a second reading. He then began to explore the works of the poets of the past. Soon after he became an optimist, combining ideas and daring to think for himself—a bold thing in those days.

He next began, after writing in Cumberland's paper, to tempt the stage, in a play called "First Impressions;" it was in 1813, and in his account of the venture he was humorous. He asked a friend to dine with him and go to the theatre, but never let out the secret of the play being his own, though his object was for his friend "to keep up his courage." He scarcely knew when the curtain drew up, so much did he feel about the event. The first scene passed off quietly and he began to feel courage, when a slight hiss was heard at a particular passage. He was overwhelmed, and to conceal his emotion hissed as heartily as any of the audience, and thus aided to damn his own play, and prevent his friend at his side from suspecting the secret. His feelings he could not describe; he used to observe that he was the first author who helped to damn his own play, and take a friend with him to the theatre to assist him. The "Runaway" and then "Trevanion," a novel in four volumes, and next, with his brother James, the "Rejected Addresses" appeared, and the last ran to eighteen editions, the fruit of their combined parodies.

His other works were numerous. From 1821 to 1830 he was a contributor to the "New Monthly Magazine," and in succession he brought out several popular novels. He died in 1849, after contributing to the "London Journal." In the last he said that he should like to live only the last part of his life over again, and only the last part, for that his latter days had been blessed; that he held intellectual enjoyment to be the chief good in life, and virtue its chief pleasure, and he acted up to his professions, for he was one of the most amiable of men, and if of no high rank, equal to one of the purest spirits of which rank could boast.

On the 1st of July will appear, under the editorship of Mr. Robert H. Mair, the first number of the *Scholastic Register and Educational Advertiser*, "a journal of hints, facts, and fancies for principals of schools, tutors, and governesses."

The workmen employed at the office of the *Wrexham Advertiser* had their annual treat on Saturday, the 22nd of May, in the shape of a picnic to Ellesmere, in which a party of fifty participated, it being the day of the majority of the paper, which has now run twenty-one years.

ROWELL'S DIRECTORY.

I.—MR. CARP DIVES INTO IT.

Among the titles of general newspapers are the *Locomotive*, of Opelika; *Our Mountain Home* and the *Watch Tower* of Talladega, both in Alabama—the *Crescent* of Des Arc; *Mountain Echo* of Fayetteville; *Clarion* and *Southern Shield* of Helena, in Arkansas—the *Stars and Stripes* of Auburn; *Rescue* of Sacramento; *Morning Call*, *Elevator*, *Evangel*, *Social Voices*, and *Golden City* of San Francisco; *Lassen Sage Brush* of Susanville; *Pajaronian* of Watsonville, and *Sutler Banner* of Yuba, in California—the *Trumpet* of Boneville; *Christian Secretary* and *Gas Light* of Hartford; *Banner and Banquet* of Love of Kent; *Tomahawk* of Middletown; *Palladium* of New Haven; *Yankee Pedler* of Norwalk, in Connecticut—*Our Mutual Friend* of Milford, in Delaware—*Vox Populi* and *Great Republic* of Washington, in Columbia—*Mountain Signal* of Dahlonaga, in Georgia—the *Pantagraph* of Bloomington; *Plain Dealer* of Charleston; *New Covenant*, *Inside Track*, *Little Corporal*, and *Mystic Star* of Chicago; *Public of Clinton*; *Radical* of Kewanee; *Our Flag*, of Marion; *Promulgator* of Metropolis; *Oread* of Mount Carroll; *Schoolmaster* of Normal; *National Guard* of Oregon; *Prairie Beacon* and *Valley Blade* of Paris; *Memento* of Peoria; *Pedigogies* of Polo; *Golden Censer* of Rockford; *Prairie Chief* of Toulon; *Egyptian Artery* of Vienna; and *New Index* of Verona, all in Illinois—the *Progress* of Bloomington; *Aurora Borealis* of Bowling Green; *Banner of Liberty* of Butler; *Future*, *Jolly Hoosier*, *Little Chief*, and *Morning Watch* of Indianapolis; *Democratic Pharos* of Logansport; *Sign* of the *Times* of Newcastle; *Reveille* of Pierestown; *Union Spy* of Rochester; *Jacksonian* of Rushville; *Forum* of South Bend; *Vidette* of Valparaiso, all in Indiana—*Eureka* of Anemosa; *Star of the Evening* of Barclay; *Union Guard* of Bellevue; *Signal* of Bentonport; *Hawkeye* of Burlington; *Loyal Citizen* of Centreville; *Bugle* and *Nonpareil* of Council Bluffs; *True Radical* of Davenport; *National Platform* of Des Moines; *Iowa North West* of Fort Dodge; *Opinion* of Glenwood; *Annals* of Iowa of Iowa City; *Gate City* of Keokuk; *Excelsior* of Magnoketa; *Progressive Republican* of Maringo; *Egis* of Nevada; *Copper Head* of Ottumwa; *Blade* of Pella; *Enterprise* of West Liberty; *Hawkeye Flag* and *Madisonian* of Winterset, all in Iowa. In Kansas we have no titles which might not be found in England; but in Kentucky we fall in with the *Omnibus* of Louisville; and *Jackson Purchase* of Maysville. In Louisiana, the *Meridional* of Abbeville; the *Sugar Planter* of Baton Rouge; the *Radical Standard* of Carrollton; the *Civic Guard* of Houma; the *Villager* of Marksville; the *Children of the West* of Mount Lebanon; the *Picayune* of New Orleans; the *Empire Parish* of Pointe à la Hache; the *South Western* of Shreveport; and the *Southern Ruralist* of Tangipahoa. Passing with a long stride into Maine, we find the *Progressive Age* of Belfast; the *Sunrise* of Presque Isle; and the *Voice* of Sherman Mills. In Maryland, we have the *Weeker*, the *Calogram*, the *Olive Branch*, *Saturday Night*, and *Sunny Land*, of Baltimore; the *Crumptonian* of Crumpton; the *Alleghanian* and the *Civilian* of Cumberland; *Common Sense* of Ellicott; the *Herald and Torch Light* of Hagerstown; the *True Marylander* of Princess Anne; and the *Eastern Shoreman* of Salisbury. We now arrive at Massachusetts, and, turning at once to Boston, which is credited with ninety-five newspapers and magazines, we meet with the *Banner of Light*, the *Flag of our Union*, the *Yankee Blade*, *Living Age*, *Ploughman*, *True Flag*, *World's Crisis*, and *Our Country*. Among the provincials are the *Cape Ann Light* of Gloucester; *Publisher* of Haverhill; *Wag* (probably comic) of South Boston; and a very well coined title, the *Saturday Evening Chronotype* of Westborough. Michigan, for its size, gives us very little out of the common way, except *Ellis' Sensation* of Charlotte; and the *Present Age* of Kalamazoo, and an ambitious *Democratic Expounder* of Marshall, and a *True Northerner* of Paw-Paw. True, there is a *Bill Poster* at Pontiac, but this would seem to be simply a gratuitous advertising sheet, not a newspaper proper. In Minnesota, we find a *Wanderer*, picking up the waifs and strays of St. Paul; so we pass on to Mississippi. Here we come across the *Tallahatchian*, of Charleston; the *Coahomian* of Friar's Point; the *Central Star* of Goodman; *Copiahan* of Hazlehurst; the *Falcon* of Oxford; and *Our Own Newspaper* of

Pontotoc. California, in Missouri, possesses only two journals, with the respective titles of the *Loyal Journal* and the *Pickwickian*. Happy city! to judge by the names of its papers. But cold or savage sound the titles of other Missouri journals—the *Marble City News* of Cape Girardeau; the *Expose* of Forest City; the *Torchlight* of Gallatin; the *People's Tribune* of Jefferson; the *Caucasian* of Lexington; the *Unterrified Democrat* of Linn; the *Spring River Fountain* of Mount Vernon; the *Cosmos* of St. Charles; the *Repudiator* and the *Communist* of St. Louis; and the *Landmark* of Weston, with a great number of *Democrats*, *Republicans*, *Independents*, and *Sentinels*. Journalistically speaking, we should not like to live in the State of Missouri—newspaper work must be fierce, and editorial life troublous, if not insecure there. It is a positive relief to pass to the quiet State of Nebraska, where we find nothing more alarming than an *Iron Horse* at Omaha. More reassuring still is the smaller State of Nevada, where, in Virginia City, we find a *Safeguard*.

Refreshed by a halt in these two tranquil States, we plunge into New Hampshire, where a *Northern Advocate* meets us at Claremont, a *Star Spangled Banner* at Hinsdale, and a *States and Union* at Portsmouth. But we pass through without any farther molestation or reminders of past troubles to New Jersey. In this State we find at Camden a *New Republic*; at Jersey City an *American Standard*; a *Beacon* at Lambertville; a *True Democratic Banner* at Morristown; a *Sentinel of Freedom* and a *Budget* at Newark; a *Fredonian* at New Brunswick; and after these, a refreshing *Sunbeam* at Salem, a *Daily Emporium* at Trenton, and a *Constitution* at Woodbury. And now, on to New York State. We at once have a *Visitor* at Adams, the first town on the list, and are immediately at home with a *Knickerbocker* at Albany; we meet a *Progressive Batavian* at Batavia, and fight rather shy of an *United Irishman* at Buffalo. He may be a Fenian, or at the mildest, a little the worse for whiskey. At Canajoharie we find a *Radii* (if the singular article can be annexed to the plural number—if not it is no fault of ours—why is the title plural?); a *Pasquinade* at Carmel; and a cousin of the name of *Le Charivari* at Champlain; a *Cataract* at Cohoes; a *True Patriot* (can a patriot be untrue?) at Cuba; an *Expositor* at Dundee; an *Active Christian* at Fredonia; a *Democratic Volunteer* and a *Madisonensis* at Hamilton; *Rough Notes* at Kinderhook; an *Utilitarian* at Margaretville; *Signs of the Times* at Middletown; a stern *Republican Watchman* at Montezello; and a mild *Village News* at Mount Vernon. Having run the gauntlet of all these, we pause to take breath before entering the city of New York, where, we are forewarned, we have to go through a list of 287 papers. F. C.

ADVERTISING IN PARIS.

BEFORE the year 1828, such a thing as an advertisement was comparatively unknown in that city, and for eight years thereafter but little headway was made. But about 1836 a better condition of affairs was established by the "invention" of newspapers at a moderate rate. The diminution in the price led to an increase in the number of subscribers, greater publicity was attained, and as a consequence, advertisements flourished. The development which this extension of advertising gave to the Press in Paris, is illustrated by the official returns of the papers published in that city. In 1828 only 28,000,000 stamps were used. In 1843 61,000,000 were issued, and in 1846 the number reached to 80,000,000. Koliachis Parisian Sketches enable us to realise the dimensions to which advertising has been since developed in Paris, and some of its more remarkable features at the present time:

Among the ways and means by which Parisian artists, merchants, and manufacturers bring their performance under the notice of the public, advertisements and a certain kind of puffs called *reclames* are the most important. Although the latter (the *reclames*) have, for some time past, no longer excited the powerful influence which they did twenty and even ten years ago on the public of the French capital, there are constantly enormous sums spent for them, and not a number of the so-called "six grand journals of Paris," the *Siecle*, *Patrie*, *Presse*, *Journal des Debats*, *Constitutionnel*, and *Pays*, is issued, but which contains at least half a dozen elaborate puffs, which are paid for by the persons whom they benefit, and which are inserted in the columns headed, "*Faits*

divers." This kind of puffs is so much resorted to by the business community because there are still a great many persons ignorant of the manner in which they are got up, and, as they see them printed in the editorial columns of the paper, are credulous enough to take it for granted that they emanate from the editors, and represent their honest convictions.

To form a correct idea of the extent of the business to which the publication of advertisements and *reclames* gives rise in Paris, it should be known that the publishers of nearly all daily papers in Paris let out their whole advertising space, or, at least, the fourth page, to stock companies or wealthy advertising agents, who pay the publishers for each page between two and three hundred, and in one instance (that of Girardin's *Liberté*) even four hundred thousand francs annually in advance, and yet make very large profits, as the following statement will show:

Each advertising page of the Paris dailies contains six columns of two hundred and sixteen lines printed in brevier type, that is to say, altogether one thousand two hundred and ninety-six brevier lines, which, at one franc a line, the invariable rate charged by most of the Paris papers for each insertion of an advertisement, yield as many francs. Now supposing that the paper is not published on the three principal holidays of the year (Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide), we have to multiply that sum of 1,294 by 362, and obtain a product of 469,152 francs; so that the advertising agent or advertising stock company, after deducting the sum to be paid to the publishers of the paper, and of the commissions allowed to canvassers and sub-agents, of office rent and other expenses, makes a clear profit of between a hundred and thirty and a hundred and forty thousand francs. The advertising rates in the papers which demand more than three hundred thousand francs a year for the use of an advertising page, are proportionately higher.

But it happens very frequently that the advertisements fill not only the fourth page of the Paris dailies, but also the larger part of the third page. Supposing now, that these additional advertisements fill daily only one-third of the third page of the paper, we have to add the sum of 156,384 francs to that of 469,152 francs, and find that the annual receipts of a Paris daily for advertisements amount to between six and seven hundred thousand francs.

Nearly four-fifths of these advertisements, which yield such an enormous income to the newspapers, are procured by advertising agents, who employ canvassers and brokers for the collection of advertisements; and inasmuch as the number of these sub-agents, canvassers, and brokers is comparatively limited, and the whole business is concentrated in the hands of only a few firms, it yields large profits to all who participate in it; and even the lowest of the *employés* receive surprisingly liberal salaries. None, however, but such of extraordinary tact, great persuasive powers, and a thorough familiarity with the wants of the business community, are employed in the Parisian advertising agencies, and the phrase, "As smart as an advertising agent," has almost become proverbial in Paris.

Some of these agents (*courtiers d'annonces*), to my certain knowledge, do business with such a certainty of success that they frequently engage to furnish a certain amount of advertising within a stipulated space of time, which they never fail to do. As a proof of this statement, let me mention the following instance: Mr. G., the bookseller and printer, was about to publish a new railroad map, when it occurred to him that instead of an ordinary ornamental margin, he might just as well surround his map with advertisements; the more so, as a close consultation showed him that these advertisements would yield him the handsome profit of thirty thousand francs. He made haste to communicate his idea to one of the sharpest and most successful advertising agents, who, although he had, at the time, already his hands full of business, bound himself to furnish, *en passant*, within six weeks, advertisements enough to fill the margin of the map. The job (I saw the bill myself), yielded him a profit of ten thousand francs. It is true, the advertising agent in question is a very clever fellow, whose impudence, if need be, is in keeping with his amiability; of whom you may expect everything except truthfulness; whose decorum is perfectly faultless, and who is so highly respected by those for whom he does business, that they offer him a chair at ten yards distance.

If the larger portion of the Parisian public, to make its business

known to the community, must resort to the journals, the latter, on their part, are obliged, for the purpose of informing the people of their existence, to rent several thousand square feet of a house-wall, and to introduce themselves to the public through a sign-painter's brush. This gives rise to the painted wall *reclame*. But this gigantic way of publishing is open not only to journalism, but it may be trodden by whosoever does not object to spending a few thousand francs. For you must not believe that the owner of such a wall looks upon these painted puffs as things adorning his house. On the contrary, he who refuses to pay him so much a square foot, may have his *reclames* painted elsewhere.

NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.

THE sixth anniversary dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund took place on the 5th ult., at Willis's Rooms. About 200 gentlemen were present, Lord Houghton in the chair.

There were also present a large number of ladies.

The Chairman gave, as the first toast, the health of the Queen, "who reigns over a free Press and a free people."

The Chairman in giving "The Army and Navy," paid a compliment to the candour and grace with which the Duke of Cambridge presided at last year's festivities, and expressed his perfect sympathy with the objects and aims of the association.

Colonel D'Orsay, Grenadier Guards, returned thanks on behalf of the Army.

Captain Sherard Osborn, replied on behalf of the Navy.

The Chairman then proposed the toast of the evening. He said,—My presence in the chair this evening signalises a private disappointment and a public misfortune. Some months ago Mr. Reverdy Johnson, then the Minister of the United States of America in England, signified his kind intention to preside over this banquet, and it was the only public dinner over which he ever accepted the presidency. He did so then in the plenitude of his hope that when at this date he should take the chair he would be able to announce to you in the terms of official greeting an eternal concord on all points between England and America. *Diis aliter visum*. You know, and, therefore, I need not tell you, the circumstances under which this society was organised, and the objects which it hopes to attain. The newspaper Press of this country is the great anonymous literature. It is the literature which we look forward to every morning of our lives—it is the literature which more than any other directs and guides our aspirations—it is the literature to which the people have recourse who have no other literature whatever. I would beg you to note the peculiarity of this literature, that it is anonymous, but I do not think it less deserves our regards because it is anonymous. Anonymous have been the sacred books of all the nations of the world; anonymous have been the great poems of antiquity; anonymous have been the ballads which have formed the minds and imaginations of the people; anonymous was the book of Thomas à Kempis; anonymous were the letters of Junius. But do not let newspaper literature be less regarded because of the fact that it is anonymous. There is a gentleman in this room who, during his long career of anonymous literature, has contributed more to the illustration of British and foreign history than all the literary professors of all the universities since the beginning of this century. But, gentlemen, there are difficulties connected with this anonymous position of the Press which you will at once recognise. The anonymous writer is obliged to forego much of his vanity, together with many of the rewards of public life, and many of the distinctions which otherwise he would obtain, and when we come to the poorer classes of the contributors to this literature we find them in a most difficult position. When they fall into distress, when the success of life abandons them, and when they are surrounded by poverty and discomfort they cannot go, as the literary man can, to the Literary Fund, and to the parons of literature, and say "I am in difficulties; help me." They are unknown except among the members of their own profession, and it is these members of their own profession who have founded this fund. They have founded it for this special purpose—for the relief and for the benefit of these men. Surely those who are the great gainers by this profession—surely those who are known to be the heads of the profession should join this fund in an earnest and charitable spirit. Whilst I have had the honour of presiding over this

society it has distributed its funds with the greatest discretion and care for the interests of those connected with it, and, above all, for the benefit of the families of those who have been overtaken by misfortune. This is really the great point which I wish to call your attention to. If you wish to show your sympathy for the families which, under painful circumstances, men connected with the Press leave behind them, you cannot do better than contribute to this fund. Therefore, gentlemen, I ask you for a recognition of the enormous benefits which the newspaper Press confers upon this country, to do all you can, privately and publicly, to contribute to the success of the efforts of the Newspaper Press Fund.

The toast was drunk enthusiastically.

Mr. Venables, Q.C., proposed "The Houses of Parliament." He said—I think there can be doubt that out of Parliament there is no class of persons who individually and collectively are better able to form an opinion with regard to the subjects with which Parliament is occupied than the Press of this country. On the other hand, there is nothing in which the public feel greater interest than in the proceedings of Parliament. Those proceedings furnish a supplement to the discussions of the Press, while the writers of the Press contribute to an enormous extent to the discussions in Parliament. As regards the connection between the Press and Parliament, I should think many an editor, in preparing for the production of his paper on the following day, while awaiting the arrival of messages from the two Houses, experiences somewhat of the feeling expressed in the words of the beautiful song which we have just heard—

"I listened for a footfall,
I listened for a word,
But the beating of my own heart,
Was all the sound I heard."

I should think the numerous gentlemen connected with the Press whom I am now addressing appreciate, as I do, the value of the two Houses of Parliament, and I have no doubt that most of them are as little disposed as I am to concur in the opinion which has been so often expressed that the Government of the country would be better conducted if there was less talk about it. I believe that the sort of competitive examination which men pass through in the course of a career of twenty or thirty years in Parliament affords us much better security for honesty and ability in the conduct of public affairs than could be found in the choice of any sovereign or of any minister. I believe, too, that the members of the Press are deeply impressed with a sense of the moral responsibility which attaches to the exercise of political influence on the part of public men; and I cannot help adding that I think many a statesman who has grown old in the service of his country would feel somewhat puzzled if between twelve and two o'clock at night he had from a reporter's notes to make up his mind at once what opinion he should send forth to those who, on the next day, would repeat them in the full belief that they were their own (laughter). That requires a political aptitude, a degree of knowledge, and a mastery of political and other topics which few persons possess. However, as I am speaking on behalf of those who are connected with the Press, I think it would be better if I were to praise those whose health is to be drunk than those so many of whom are to join in drinking it. I am one of those who believe in the utility of parliament. I concur, too, in the opinion expressed by Paley, that one great advantage of parliamentary government is that it gives people something to talk about (hear, hear). The happiness of human life is—I agree with that great writer who always took a cheerful view of things—greatly increased by the constant interest which is felt in the debates and proceedings of parliament (hear, hear). I am afraid that one of the houses is only represented on this occasion by the noble lord in the chair, who, I may remark, may, in the exercise of his versatile genius, have contributed to the achievements of the Press, as well as to the debates of the legislature, and we all know that the noble lord has touched nothing which he has not adorned (cheers). The House of Commons is, however, unanimously represented, and among its representatives is an eminent member of her Majesty's Government, and one of the most numerous respected members of the House of Commons. I have now to propose "The Houses of Parliament and the Lord Advocate."

The Lord Advocate returned thanks, and in conclusion proposed in complimentary terms "The Health of the Noble Chairman."

The Chairman responded, and proposed the toast of "Art, Science, and Literature," coupling with the toast the names of Sir F. Grant, President of the Royal Academy, and Captain Burton, the celebrated traveller.

Sir Francis Grant, R.A., acknowledged the toast on behalf of art. Captain Burton for science.

The toast of "The Ladies," proposed by Alderman Gibbons, and cordially drunk by the company, brought the proceedings to a close.

The subscriptions announced in the course of the evening amounted to about £700.

THE MANIFOLD ACQUIREMENTS THAT ARE WANTED TO MAKE AN EDITOR.

(From the *Round Table*, New York.)

To be the efficient managing editor of a journal requires a rare combination of valuable qualities. In addition to those manifest desiderata of education, good habits, the power to "stay" in work, and social tact and resource, the proper filling of such a niche makes serious and exacting demands. It requires of a man self-control—the first essential towards controlling others. It requires ripeness of knowledge and experience, the habit of reticence, the vigilant self-respect that prevents a man from putting himself in other men's power, the command of a pure, strong, and copious style—since the wit to censure and the talent to select rarely exist without these, and such critical and discriminative ability are precisely what our functionary should not be without. It requires that a man should be a trustworthy linguist and belles-lettres scholar, that he should have some personal knowledge of the principal foreign countries, their people, politics, and systems; that he should possess a fair acquaintance with the laws of trade, with the principles of engineering and navigation, and with natural and exact science in general. It requires a fair, discriminative knowledge of the drama and of art, and a comprehensive familiarity with national history, men, and affairs. Some among these qualifications come, like Dogberry's reading and writing, "by nature;" but half an eye and half a head should show that the most indispensable of their number must needs be the fruit of experience. Even genius alone won't do here. Talent is better, with the training that teaches its application.

BOSTON NEWSPAPERS.

(From the *Cincinnati Times*.)

THE Boston newspapers are all making considerable money at the present time, although it is not many years ago that they were all struggling for existence, the *Post* (Democratic) taking the lead with precious instalments of government work. There are now four Republican papers, the *Journal*, *Traveller*, *Transcript* and *Advertiser*, the first issuing both morning and evening editions, the next two evening editions only, and the last only a morning edition.

The Democrats are content with the *Morning Post* (the leading Democratic organ of New England), and the *Herald*, a small and vile sheet, which is issued morning and evening, in fact, nearly every hour of the day. The latter is sold for two cents, and lacks one feature which nearly every newspaper in the country possesses, "good, bad, or indifferent" editorials. It has a place, of course, for editorial articles, but does not contain more than a half a dozen each year—and these are drawn out by great political excitements, or by somebody's treading on the leading proprietors' corns—metaphorically speaking. It may be uncomplimentary to moral and religious Boston and New England, but the *Herald* has by far the largest circulation of any paper in this section, and is popularly supposed to print 50,000 or 60,000 copies daily.

In circulation the *Journal* ranks next and the figures are said to be 40,000 or 45,000. There is not much difference in the circulation of the other papers, which range from 20,000 to 30,000, according to the figures of the counting-room clerks, and from 8,000 to 15,000 with the Pressmen, who are generally supposed to be pretty well posted. The circulation of the *Traveller* is doubled on Saturdays by the "Review of the Week," which is written by the Hon. Charles C. Hazewell, who is pronounced by competent judges the best review writer in the country. That the reading

public like his style, and appreciate his ability, is shown by the fact that the number of *Travellers* printed on Saturday is twice as large as that of any other day. The *Post* and *Traveller* are the only establishments which solicit advertisements, the others trusting confidently and with success to what may be called "spontaneous advertisers."

The *Herald* is circulated mostly among the lower classes, though its objectionable news attracts the patronage of many respectable people, who are loud in their denunciations of the sheet after they have fully digested all the scandal and immoral matter which it contains. The aristocracy favour the *Transcript* and *Advertiser*, and the latter, in addition to being the organ of the Harvard College students and alumni, is, like the *Post*, an excellent commercial paper. What commerce lacks in patronage in the case of the *Post* the Democrats supply, and a handsome new office, now in process of erection for the use of this paper, shows that its profits are large. The *Traveller* and *Journal* cater to the wants of the middling classes, and are great rivals, the *Journal* getting the best of the battle always, because it has both morning and evening editions. The yearly dividends of these papers are forty per cent. and upwards, the major part of the money being made on the dailies—their weeklies being unprofitable in comparison.

In the eyes of newspaper employes and of writers—editors and reporters in particular—the *Transcript*, all things considered, is the best paper to work for. Their editors—not stockholders—receive from 2,000 dols. to 5,000 dols. per annum, and their reporters from 25 dols. to 80 dols. per week. The editors' salaries on all the papers range from 1,500 dols. to the larger sum named above. The *Advertiser* comes next for reporters, their salaries ranging from 18 dols. to 30 dols., and their work, although mostly in the evening, is not very arduous. On the *Traveller* and *Journal*, reporters receive 18 dols. per week, which is fair on the first named for six hours' work a day, and niggardly on the *Journal* for from six to twenty-four hours a day. It is a popular joke with reporters that the managing editor of the *Journal* is only in good humour when his six reporters are hard at work "twenty-five hours" a day, and they affirm that you have to make the extra hour by turning out an hour before sunrise. Undoubtedly, the hardest paper for reporters is the *Journal*, and their discharge is ready the minute they are found turning an honest penny by writing correspondence or articles for any other sheet.

The *Post* is famous for hiring more new reporters in one year than all the other papers put together, and an ex-New York *Herald* attache, who was connected therewith for a few weeks, swore that the proprietors did not pay a reporter enough to enable him to live in a second-class sailor's boarding-house, to say nothing of a supply of suitable wearing apparel which one must have annually. Usually their rate is 18 dols. per week, but a man who will work for 14 dols. will readily supplant an occupant of a situation who is receiving the first stupendous sum. The *Post* is an interesting and able paper, however, and is the rival of the *Advertiser*, to such an extent that if one of its sub-editors or reporters receives an offer from the *Advertiser*, he is sure of 20 dols. or 25 dols. per week as long as he wants to remain with the *Post*. There are about thirty reporters in Boston, but only half a dozen are really smart writers and thoroughly competent men, the majority taking very little interest in their business, and cherishing not the slightest ambition or hope of ever being promoted.

THE NEWSPAPER LAWS.

(From the *Standard*.)

It is not our duty to extol or defend the Fourth Estate; but this much may fairly be said, that no restriction upon it was ever removed which any person of any authority ever proposed to renew. It was so in 1694, when the censorship was practically abolished. It died a natural death. No man in the state was found to suggest its revival, and it passed away unaccompanied by a single regret. The arguments of those, and even of later days, appear incomprehensible to us. Not longer ago than the commencement of the present century there were awful orations, warning the world that a free Press was the mother of revolutions, that England swarmed with prints of a malignant and seditious tendency, that they constituted a solemn social danger, and that they would

ultimately bury the realm itself in ruin. To meet these perils these curious acts were devised, and with what effect? In the first place, they were dead letters long ago; in the next, even when applied, they never answered their purpose. For years past they have not been cited in courts of law, except when individuals, of antiquarian knowledge, resuscitated them in order to gratify a personal spite. The stamp duty—one old reason alleged—has been abolished; the British Museum, also pleaded as an excuse, ought not to be mentioned at all. Law or no law, its newspaper files are abominably imperfect; in many instances blank, in others beyond reach, and in all shamefully inaccessible. Lord Lansdowne tells us that a bill is pending to provide against the loss, by the British Museum, of its claim to a copy of every newspaper published in the United Kingdom. We can say no more than that it would be a Cyclopean act of legislation which should compel the trustees of the British Museum to fulfil their public duties.

THE PRESS IN TURKEY.

(From the *Progress*, Constantinople.)

AMONGST civilized nations there is nothing so respectable and dignified as journalism. Journalism is the interpreter of public ideas, and sometimes their protector. If schoolmasters, who educate children, are regarded with respect and honour, how much more ought the journalist, who educates the public, to be looked upon with respect? Is there any means for protecting the interests of a country, promoting people's ideas, or recording events, but newspapers? Are not newspapers the only instruments for making known the wants of the people to the Government and the intentions of the Government to the people? Do not newspapers, by the necessary warnings, promote doing good and the avoidance of evil? A newspaper is the telescope of the State, and the helper of the people. What honour is due to that State which looks at the ideas of the people with this telescope and strives to improve them! How fortunate is that State which is able to freely represent its wants and opinions, and to obtain what it desires without disorder or tumult! How fortunate are those newspapers which promote the attainment of this kind of progress! Alas! alas! that as yet we have not found the use of this instrument for introducing the ideas of the age. The State consequently obtains information respecting the wants and opinions of its subjects with great difficulty. There is no way for any one to represent to the Government well-known wants or his own special views except by drawing up a petition and obtaining thousands of signatures.

Well, if our newspapers improved, and published in a proper way the intentions of the State and the wants of the people, there would no longer be these difficulties, and many right ideas and advantageous projects existing amongst the Turks would no longer be buried. . . .

We are ashamed when we consider the present state of our newspapers; this is not the fault of those who govern us; it is not the correct sign of our degree of education. It is the fruit of the little attention our learned men give to journalism. . . . To leave the Press, which is the standard of a people's civilisation, excellence, and perfection, to a pack of disreputable, ignorant fellows, is an indignity to civilised nations and a disgrace to our country.

NEWSPAPERS VERSUS BOOKS.

(From Lecky's "History of European Morals.")

A MOST momentuous intellectual revolution is at present taking place in England. The ascendancy in literary and philosophical questions, which belonged to writers of books, is manifestly passing, in a very great degree, to weekly, and even daily papers, which have long been supreme in politics, and have begun within the last ten years systematically to treat ethical and philosophical questions. From their immense circulation, their uncontested ability, and the power they possess of continually reiterating their distinctive doctrines, from the impatience, too, of long and elaborate writings, which newspapers generate in the public, it has come to pass that these periodicals exercise probably a greater influence than any other productions of the day in forming

the ways of thinking of ordinary educated Englishmen. The many consequences, good and evil, of this change it will be the duty of future literary historians to trace. An important effect of these journals has been to evoke a very large amount of talent in the lawyer class. Men, whose professional duties would render it impossible for them to write long books, are quite capable of treating philosophical subjects in the form of short essays, and have, in fact, become the chief writers in these periodicals.

Correspondence.

ONE HUNDRED CORRUPT NEWSPAPERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—The manufacturers of a new pen have lately sent round to the papers extracts from the notices of one hundred journals in praise of their invention. On the margin of the sheet is written, "If you add a notice to our list, send copy, and we will not miss you in our round of advertisements." Of course I do not blame the firm who send out this bait, but I think very meanly of the papers which bolt it. I had proudly believed there were not a hundred corruptible papers to be found in the kingdom.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

SELF-RESPECT.

THERE are different modes of obtaining redress for injuries wrought by the hands of newspaper editors. The Honourable F. Cadogan is trying one—and the most recognised—an application to a jury for damages. Lord Carington has, we understand, adopted a readier and more decided remedy, the *argumentum baculinum*. It appears that the noble lord was aggrieved by some comments which appeared in a weekly paper, reflecting not only upon himself but on his father, and resolved to have recourse to that last mode of procuring satisfaction which the law takes cognizance of as assault and battery. We have not a word to say in defence of the provocation. The wonder is that it has been left to Lord Carington to take it up. But we are curious to see the issue. According to some authorities we are to have the ordinary summons, from Marlborough-street, the usual defence, and a fine. According to others, nothing less than a meeting on Calais sands will settle the affair. There are folks so much behind their time and so weak-minded as to think that the only way of giving a check to the forcible language and the physical demonstrations in vogue now-a-days is an invitation across the water, and a measurement of twelve paces. At any rate it will be interesting to watch the *denouement*. At present the peer has the best of it.—*Standard*.

PRESS WORK OF THE PERIOD.—As an instance of the facilities afforded to modern journalism by steam and electricity it is worth noting a feat performed by a provincial contemporary on the occasion of the division in the Lords on Saturday last. The *Western Mail*, the new daily paper for the West of England and Wales, published a double number, with the result of the division, a leading article upon it, and a special report of the Friday night's debate—several columns long—three hours after the division in the House of Lords at Westminster in time for delivery in the West and disposal.

THE POST OFFICE REGULATIONS.—Last year we published a letter from a correspondent complaining of the system adopted at the Post Office of withholding the receipt for the registration-fee for some weeks—a course so entirely at variance with that pursued in every other branch of business. We are happy to announce that the system has been amended this year and a certificate of registration given at time of payment. The office is also removed from No. 91 in the corridor to the "Personal Inquiry" Office at the top of the stairs.

THE editor of the *Vicksburg Times* says:—"We have before us invitations to a private musical *soirée*, a cockfight, and a wedding."

ADVERTISING ingenuity has left little room for novelty, but a merchant in Newark, New York State, has challenged attention by leaving his space entirely blank, with the following note, in fine print at the bottom:—"This space was sold to A. & E. Brennan, but as their business is sufficiently brisk already they decline to use it."

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, June 24.

The journals of this city, and indeed the provincial ones too, are still full of observations, accusations, protests, complaints, and recriminations about the late elections. The Government seems as much resolved as ever to put down the opposition Press, whilst the liberal journals are not to be frightened by threats, intimidations, or prosecutions, into becoming subservient tools of the Ministers. Several papers are now systematically seized, others have ceased to appear, whilst the prosecutions are legion, and as conviction follows as a matter of course, the extreme amount of punishment is awarded to the unfortunate editors, who, notwithstanding the severity of the verdicts, are not to be deterred from again and again fighting the good battle for the freedom of the Press. A few days ago the *Siccle* gave the following account of the state of affairs. "Two of our own editors, M. Jourdan and M. Limousin, are charged with the offence of circulating false intelligence and inciting to hatred of the Government. The *Réveil* was seized on three consecutive days—Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On the last named day fifty policemen forced an entrance into the house in the Rue Coq-heron in which their offices are, and arrested on the spot two of the editors, MM. Cournot and Quentin, whilst two others, MM. Morel and Boquet, were arrested in their own private residences. On Thursday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, the police entered by force the offices of the editor and manager of the *Rappel*, examined all their manuscripts and papers and arrested M. Edouard Laferrière. At the same time writs were issued for the arrest of the three other editors, MM. Arnould, Mourice, and Bacquerie, but in the search that was made they could not be found. Yesterday the officers of the *Opinion Nationale* were searched, and the whole edition of that paper seized, whilst in the course of the day M. Guérout, the chief editor, received a summons to appear before the *Juge d'Instruction* for preliminary examination on grave charges. The *Gaulois* is also in trouble, two of its editors, MM. Tarbé and Pessard, being also summoned to appear. At 8 o'clock most of the members of the democratic committee of the fifth district, including MM. Poirier, Chatouillot, Rauvier, and other journalists, were arrested and taken to prison. All these are accused for conspiracy against the safety of the State. Pretty sharp work for one day."

The courts of justice have enough work on their hands, and perform their work with alacrity. The case of the *Rappel* is already brought to a close and judgment delivered: M. Barbieux, the gérant, being condemned to four months' imprisonment and payment of a fine 3,000f.; M. Arnould, the editor, also to four months' imprisonment and a fine of 3,000f.; and the printer, Schiller, to one month's imprisonment and 1,000f. fine. The trial of the other editor, M. Laferrière, will take place separately, as in consequence of some trifling technical informality he could not be included in the above proceedings. Owing to this severity the paper has for the present ceased to appear, as the printer, Schiller, has refused the further use of his type and presses; and the same has happened to the *Réveil*, so that those two papers may for the present be considered as suspended. Their proprietors have applied for redress to the *Syndicat* or committee of the Association of Journalists, but the answer is they have no jurisdiction over the printers and are incompetent to render any assistance. No less than twelve editors are now under prosecution, among whom are the gentlemen belonging to the above-named papers, and others connected with the *Siccle*,—against which alone there are no less than nine different indictments, according to their own declaration,—the *Electeur libre*, the *Gaulois*, the *Opinion Nationale*, and the *Correspondance Generale*, in the person of its editor, M. Dubois.

Of the late razzia that was executed against the gentlemen of the Paris Press, a number of curious events are related; among other things that M. Theophile Gautier, the head of the Press Bureau in the Ministry of the Interior, was arrested by mistake, though of course immediately set at liberty as soon as his identity was recognised; and further, that among the indis-

criminate arrests was that of the secret and confidential agent of an illustrious personage residing in the Palais Royal. Some of the gentlemen connected with the Press have since been set at liberty, as the criminal charge against them has been dropped, and they will only be prosecuted in the Civil Tribunals. Among these are said to be MM. Laferrière of the *Rappel*, and Camille Bocquet, Brivane, Lefrançais, and Morel of the *Réveil*.

One would imagine that under the severe penalties inflicted on the Press for the least offence or infraction of the law, real or alleged, no one would have sufficient courage at the present moment to think of starting a new paper, especially one opposed to the Draconic Government of the day. It will therefore be with some surprise that your readers are hereby informed of the appearance on the 13th inst. of *La France Radicale*. The name sufficiently indicates the political direction of its views and opinions, and the cause it is prepared to support. The proprietors and editors are MM. Cantagrel, Jules Valles, Briosne, Lefrançais, Chatelain, Mayot, and Perrenoud, all of whom put themselves forward at the late elections as candidates for various electoral districts of this metropolis.

The *Emancipation* of Toulouse has been condemned on the 5th inst. to pay a fine of 2,000*fr.*, and two new prosecutions have been commenced against the same journal. At Bordeaux during the late disturbances the police took the opportunity, under some frivolous pretext, to enter the offices of the *Gironde* and ransack the papers of that opposition paper, though without discovering anything of a culpable nature upon which to commence a prosecution. But the Prefect of the department having issued an order prohibiting the sale of the *Gironde* in the streets of Bordeaux, the editor publishes a list of eighteen shops in various parts of the city where the papers may be sold free from the interference of the police and rendering practically nugatory the decree of the Prefect. The Government makes no secret of its intention of putting down the opposition Press by prosecuting it with the utmost severity of the law and all other available means at their disposal.

AVANT-COURIER.

A scientific paper has been started in Paris with the title of *Journal du Ciel*, or the "Journal of Heaven."

A son of the late Douglas Jerrold proposes to start a daily paper in Paris for Englishmen and Americans.

The *Rappel* has not yet found a printer, and the *Réveil* is suspended for want of one. The "principle of authority" is reinforced by an unparalleled number of press prosecutions in the provinces; but inasmuch as the Duke of Persigny's suggestion, that the best security for order would be to gag the Bar, has not yet been adopted, it is hard to see what benefit the Government will reap by imprisoning a few journalists, and drawing down upon itself an equal number of damaging speeches. It is true that one of the bulwarks of society under the Empire is the suppression of reports of Press trials. But in the present temper of the times the substance of what counsel say is sure to leak out, and produce an impression on the public mind.—*Daily News Correspondence.*

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, June 25.

From the official returns of the Press at Berlin that have just been published it appears that during the second quarter of the present year the circulation of the *Kladderadatch* (weekly) was 32,220 copies; the *Volkszeitung* (six times per week), 21,776; the *Staatsbürgerzeitung* (seven times a week), 19,880; the *Gerichtszeitung* (three times a week), 17,261; the *Berliner Wespen* (once a week), 16,300; the *Tribune* (three times a week), 15,298; the *Vossische Zeitung* (six times a week), 13,990; the *Kreuzzeitung* (six times a week), 9,791; the *Nationalzeitung* (thirteen times a week), 8,349; the *Berliner Post* (thirteen times a week), 7,006; the *Berliner Börsenzeitung* (thirteen times a week), 6,744; the *Berliner Intelligenzblatt* (six times a week), 6,382; the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* (six times a week), 5,533; the *Spenerische Zeitung* (six times a week), 4,603; the *Berliner Fremden und Anzeigblatt* (six times a week), 4,493; the *Zukunft* (six times a week), 2,186; the *Bank und Handelszeitung* (thirteen times a week), 1,784; the *Publicist* (six times a week), 1,682; the *Preussische Handelszeitung* (six times a week), 1,273; the *Berliner Montagszeitung* (once a week), 1,001; and the *Börsen-Courier* (six times a week), 769. It may be interesting to many of your readers

to learn the different prices charged for advertisements to compare with those of other countries, I will therefore add that *Kladderadatch* charges 7½ groschens per line (the groschen being as near as possible 1½*d.*); the *Staatsbürgerzeitung* and the *Volkszeitung* 8 gr.; the *Gerichtszeitung*, the *Nationalzeitung*, and the *Vossische Zeitung* 2½ gr.; the *Bank und Handelszeitung*, the *Berliner Börsen-Courier*, the *Berliner Börsenzeitung*, the *Berliner Fremden und Anzeigblatt*, the *Preussische Handelszeitung*, the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, the *Berliner Post*, the *Neue Preussische or Kreuzzeitung*, the *Publicist*, the *Spenerische Zeitung*, and the *Tribune*, 2 groschens; the *Berliner Montagszeitung*, and the *Zukunft*, 1½ gr.; and the *Berliner Intelligenzblatt* 1½ gr. By a comparison of these official returns with the last (issued for the last quarter of 1867, it will be found that the *Tribune* has increased its circulation by 8,150 copies, the *Staatsbürgerzeitung* by 5,680, the *Berliner Post* by 2,300, the *Gerichtszeitung* by 2,200, the *Berliner Börsenzeitung* by 780, the *Berliner Fremden und Anzeigblatt* by 300, the *Vossische Zeitung* by 250, and the *Kreuzzeitung* by 114; whilst on the other hand the *Volkszeitung* shows a falling off of 1,418 exemplars during the same period, the *Publicist* of 1,006, the *Spenerische Zeitung* of 725, the *Zukunft* of 400, the *Nationalzeitung* of 84, and the semi-official *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* of 25.

Just before the close of the session the North German Parliament passed the Bill for the regulation of trades. The 37th section, relating to the so-called "flying book trade" (*fliegender Buchhandel*), had passed the second reading with the stipulation that the vendors of books, periodicals, and newspapers in stalls were bound to give twenty-four hours' notice to the authorities of their intention to commence business, and were to receive from them a permit available for a twelvemonth, which could not be refused to all persons above the age of sixteen. At the third reading of the Bill this paragraph was, however, altered, and the accepted wording is now as follows:—"Whoever exposes for sale or distribution in public places or in the open air in streets or roads books, newspapers, periodicals, or other printed matter, requires a permit from the local police, and has to carry such permit, which must be made out in his own name, about his person, and produce it when officially demanded. Such a permit can only be denied if it clashes with paragraph 51 of the present law." The paragraph 51, thus alluded to, has reference to the age of persons exercising the trade of pedlars, and caused a long debate, it being urged on one side that the flying booksellers should not be considered as pedlars, and that it was a trade well suited to healthy and industrious lads of sixteen, and an honest way to earn their livelihood, and Herr Dunker moved that an exception should be made in their favour. His motion was, however, thrown over by a very small majority (98 to 89 votes), and the original wording of the section confirmed, according to which the above-mentioned permits can only be granted to persons of the full age of twenty-one years.

The association of German journalists has held its annual meeting this year at Leipzig, which was very numerously attended. Next year it will be held either at Nuremberg or Vienna; for though the latter is politically no longer a part of Germany it is so geographically, and the newspapers are written in as pure German as in any other part of the Fatherland.

According to advices from Lippe-Detmold the schoolmasters and teachers are placed under the secret surveillance of the police, who have to furnish a report of their conduct every six months. The first question on the list that has to be filled up is, "Does he read newspapers, and if so, which?"

The Catholic priest, Leinweber, editor of the *Kirchenblatt für die Provinz Sachsen*, has been prosecuted in the Provincial Court at Magdeburg for an article that gave offence to the Protestant Church Council, and condemned to two months' imprisonment.

Herr E. M. Oettinger has commenced an humorous and satirical paper at Dresden under the alliterative title of *Der Dresdener Drache*. It is given as a supplement to the *Constitutionnelle Zeitung* of that city.

The editor of the *Elberfeld Zeitung* has got into a scrape by publishing an article giving an account of how a private soldier fared in the house of arrest at Cologne, in which he commented rather freely on the regulations in force. At all events the "hatred

and malice" clause was produced against him, and he was convicted of the offence and sentenced to pay a fine of 25 dols.

The first number of the *Monatsheft für Musik Geschichte* has appeared at Berlin. It is published by T. Trautwein of that city. S.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, June 25.

In one of my earliest letters I mentioned the sale of the *Presse*, an influential and well-conducted journal of this city, to an association of capitalists, who undertook to carry it on as a sort of joint-stock concern, but with the understanding that a certain number of shares were to be annually sold to the Government till in time it should become the sole property of the State. For the last two months it has been no secret that negotiations were being carried on for the sale of the paper to one of our great financial institutions—understood to be the Anglo-Austrian Bank—and now it is announced that the negotiations have been brought to a successful issue, and the sale completed. The transfer to the purchaser will be made on the 1st of July, when the Aulic Councillor Warrens retires from the editorship, and the paper will no longer be a Government organ, but be carried on as an independent journal on liberal principles, and free from all official influences, under the management of Herr Dräger, an efficient and experienced journalist. The Government has consented to the arrangement, and is said to be glad to be released from its obligations to purchase the concern.

The period for the introduction of the law promulgated on the 19th of March for trial of Press offences by juries has been postponed from time to time, and the date is even at the present day not yet fixed. It will be made known by the publication of an imperial decree on the subject. In the meantime it is wonderful what trivial circumstances give cause for Press prosecutions. Thus a journal of this city was lately condemned to pay a fine of five florins for adding an editorial remark to a correction sent in by the Procurator Fiscal, when the editor was bound to insert it without note or comment.

Herr Winternitz, a well known journalist of this city, is gone to Paris with the intention of publishing there a non-political weekly paper in the German language, devoted to the social and industrial requirements of the German colony in the French metropolis. The new paper will be called the *Germania*. On the other hand we learn from Pesth that a new commercial journal, in the French language, will be published on the 1st of July in that city under the title of *Journal du Commerce Austro-Hongrois*.

A new paper has appeared here, called the *Volks-Stimme* (*Vox Populi*), edited by one Hermann Hartung. It is an organ of the social democrats, but does not seem to have much success, social democracy having but few adherents here where the Emperor is so popular and the great mass of the people are so enthusiastically in favour of a monarchy.

At Görtz a specimen copy has been issued of a class paper, entitled the *Oesterreichische Seidenbau Zeitung*, and printed in the German and Italian languages side by side. It is, as its name implies, devoted to the cultivation and production of silk, and is edited by Professor Haberlandt. TEUTON.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, June 24.

The Congress of Swedish journalists assembled this year at Gothenburg, was opened on the 13th inst., and attended by thirty-four gentlemen connected with the Press of this country. At the first sitting Herr Hyerta, of Stockholm, was elected chairman; Herr Hedlund, member of Parliament and editor of the *Göteborg's Handels och Sjöfarts Tidning* as Vice-President; and Herr Axel Krook, editor of the *Göteborg's Post*, as Secretary. Among the subjects that came under discussion was a proposal for the creation of a pension fund for the benefit of invalided or superannuated journalists. One of the resolutions put and carried was to the following effect: "The paragraphs 3 and 5 of the existing Press-law contain regulations and stipulations concerning the responsibility of editors, and their liability to punishment, totally at variance with the modern views of legislation, and as they form a standing menace to the liberty of the Press, an early alteration of those paragraphs is essentially necessary." A committee was

appointed to draw up proposals based on this resolution, to be laid before the next Congress, which will be held in the summer of 1871, at Stockholm. The following gentlemen were elected members of the committee: Messrs. S. A. Hedlund, editor of *Göteborg's Handels-tidning*; A. Sohlmann, editor of the *Aftonblad*; Hedin, on the editorial staff of the same journal; H. Wieselgren, editor of the *Ny Illustrerad Tidning*; and Gumaelius, editor of the *Nerikes Allehanda*. Another resolution was in favour of a modification of the existing composition of juries for Press trials, which now consist of nine jurors, three of whom are named by the plaintiff, three by the defendant, and the other three by the Court, and the appointment of a standing list of jurymen in every town where a newspaper is published, elected on the same principles as those in operation for the elections of Members of Parliament. The motion for authorising the Courts of Justice to take part in the election of jurymen was negatived. The Congress expressed itself in very strong and energetic terms against the course pursued by some papers of separating the duties and responsibilities of the Press by having one gentleman as the real editor, and another, usually a man of straw or only a name, as the responsible editor; but though they fully agreed that a modification of that part of the Press law relating to responsible editors was highly desirable, as their position was nothing more than a legal fiction—for according to the state of the law they could not really be made responsible—it was considered advisable to take no action on the subject separately, but rather in conjunction with the other alterations in the present Press law, which is now quite antiquated and out of date, having been passed in the reign of King Carl Johann. And finally, it was resolved to petition the Government for a modification of the newspaper stamp duty, and its alteration from one uniform fixed sum to one in proportion to the size of the paper and the amount of annual subscription. A motion, made for the formation of a general Congress of Scandinavian journalists was rejected, but it was agreed to admit the journalists of Norway, Denmark, and Finland to take part in the proceedings of the Swedish Association. On the whole five sittings were held, at the last of which, the business being all concluded, the meeting was adjourned till the next Congress; and before finally breaking up, the Gothenburg editors entertained their colleagues from other parts of the kingdom at a banquet.

From the last monthly official returns of the stamp office in this city, the daily circulation of the principal political journals of the capital is given, in round numbers, as follows: *Dagens Nybeter*, 8,800, *Aftonbladet*, 5,700, *Fäderneslandet*, 5,400, *Nya Dagligt Allehanda*, 4,600, *Dagbladet*, 3,700, and *Post och Inrikes Tidningar*, 2,200. It is rather remarkable that the two papers whose circulation has increased most since the beginning of this year should be the principal organs of opposite parties, viz.: *Fäderneslandet*, the representative of the liberal progressionists, and the *Nya Dagligt Allehanda*, the professed organ of the protective duty system and the orthodox conservatives. NORD.

DENMARK.

The *Heimdal*, a paper established in 1865, in the town of Ripen, in Jütland, by a certain Herr Paul Geleff, for the purpose of opposing the Germanisation of Schleswig, and inciting the Danes resident there to throw off the yoke of Prussia, subsequently prosecuted with success by the Prussian Legation, and obliged to remove to Aarhus, now appears under the same title three times a week, at Copenhagen, under the joint editorship of the above-mentioned Paul Geleff and Lucianus Kofod, a member of the Danish Parliament, and an energetic supporter of the Scandinavian Union.

Herr Carl Plough, the well-known editor of the Copenhagen *Fädrelandet*, took a conspicuous part last week in the ceremony of inaugurating and unveiling the statue of the late King Frederick VII., lately erected in the principal square of that city. He was not only at the head of the Honorary Committee for conducting the ceremony and inviting the guests, but delivered the principal speech on the occasion.

RUSSIA.

The decision of the Council of State for the suppression of the *Moskwa*, on the ground that after repeated warnings and a temporary suspension on two separate occasions it did not alter its

tactics, but continued its violent writings in a manner no longer to be tolerated, has finally received the Imperial sanction and confirmation.

BAVARIA.

The organ of the popular party, the *Süddeutsche Post*, whose existence has been threatened by the death of its founder, A. Bognor, appeals now to the patriotism of its supporters and partisans for a quarterly subvention of 300 florins, or 600 new subscribers, to keep the paper alive. As it only appears three times a week, and is of a very small quarto size, the expenses of getting it up cannot be very formidable, and there must be at present but an exceedingly limited number of subscribers, if such a public appeal to the party whose interests they profess to take under their protection has become a question of vital importance.

In the official catalogue of the Bavarian Press the names and particulars of 390 newspapers and periodicals are given. Among these are 72 official Government organs for local advertisements, and 90 exclusively devoted to politics. Of these latter, 37, with 130,000 subscribers, belong to the Liberals; 2, with 17,000 copies, to the so-called Great-German Particularistic party; 7, with 16,000, have Democratic tendencies; 17, with 56,000, are organs of the Clerical or Ultramontane faction; and the remainder are impartial and independent, with no fixed political principles.

ITALY.

Following upon recent tumults at Milan, several editors of popular journals have been arrested.

TURKEY.

The *Levant Herald* has been visited with the following *communiqué* from the Direction of the Turkish Press:—"The *Levant Herald* recently announced that the journal *Reform*, which is published in Smyrna, has been suspended for two months by virtue of an arbitrary order of his Excellency the Governor-General of the vilayet of Aidin, and that its editor, having telegraphed to Constantinople to know if the Sublime Porte had in effect authorised the said suspension, had received an answer in the negative. The Direction of the Press hastens to declare that the Imperial Government formally authorised the said suspension, and that all these rumours are consequently without foundation."

UNITED STATES.

New York, June 14.

It used to be said some years ago that American editors were open to bribes, "in kind," for puffing a tradesman's wares, and that such verses as the following were not uncommon:—

"Our townsman Leask, we stop the press to say,
This blessed moment at our feet did lay,
A tin of Findhorn haddocks. O ye nine!
Won't we, for once, enjoy a snack divine!"

"T. Wheeler, Christendom should be aware,
Takes of the fourth estate a special care,
Making no charge, and using great dispatch,
He cleaned our ancient turnip of a watch!"

How true this was at the time I cannot say, but although it does not hold good now in any of our great cities, some of our country papers, it is to be feared, have not sufficient self-respect. Advertising is slack just now, and they yield too readily to the wiles of puffing tradesmen.

A striking novelty in the American Press is a new weekly, published at New York (as already noticed in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*), under the name of the *Imperialist*, urging the desirability of transforming the Republic into a Constitutional Monarchy. At the same time, one of its principal objects is to expose the abuses that exist in the Government offices. This probably accounts for its great success, for it is said that ten thousand copies of the first number were sold. It is popularly supposed to have been established at the suggestion, if not with the funds, of Mr. Adolph Borie, the new Secretary of the Navy; and it has even been asserted that President Grant has been seen to distribute with his own hands several copies to his personal friends and political supporters.

The stage in New York is becoming as vulgar in its indecency as that of London. The Press is taking the matter up, and the *Round Table* thus cheers it on:—"Only from a dignified and

impartial Press can the public look to get that wholesome sharpness of criticism, those effectual protests in behalf of outraged decency, which can cleanse and vindicate the now degraded drama. It is encouraging to find daily journalism, which has perhaps been a trifle over lenient with too delicious sin, and too fascinating golden-haired sirens, speaking through one of the most austere and judicial of its representatives in behalf of a return to nature and to virtue."

Among the income tax returns, James Gordon Bennett, of the *New York Herald*, is set down for 1868 at 186,500 dols.; Robert Bonner, of the *New York Ledger*, at 183,841 dols.; and Halstead, of the *Cincinnati Commercial*, at 34,693 dols.

A paper published at Richmond, Virginia, under the title of *Southern Opinion*, has just been given up. The conductors, by way of explanation, express the opinion that its mission has perhaps been fulfilled, and that the distinctive Southern principles upon which it was founded are dead in the hearts of the people.

Mr. Charles H. Sweetser, formerly of the *New York Mail* and of the *Round Table*, is now one of the editors of the *St. Paul Despatch*.

The *Portland (Maine) Advertiser* was recently printed on paper made of a kind of material said to have been never before used in the manufacture of paper—*Zizania aquatica*, or water rice. It grows in great abundance in many places in the north-west of America.

John W. Pittock, proprietor, and Joseph Mills, editor of the *Pittsburgh Leader*, have been held to bail to answer the charge of libel, preferred against them by Mr. Ford, a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature. The suit is based on a charge of the *Leader* that Mr. Ford's vote was in the market when he was at Harrisburg.

General William M. Brown, for many years one of the editors of the *New York Journal of Commerce*, and subsequently editor and proprietor of the *Washington Constitution*, is now the political editor of the *Augusta (Ga.) Press*.

Henry J. Raymond, editor of the *New York Times*, [and Mr. Norvell, money editor of the same paper, were arrested on the 3rd of May, upon a complaint made by James Fisk, jun., James Gould, and Mr. Lane for libel. It is understood the charges are that the *Times* has recently stated that the above-named gentlemen have misappropriated the earnings of the Erie Railway. Mr. Raymond produced bail, and effected his release. Norvell was released the next day, owing to an informality in the arrest. The damages claimed are a million dollars.

The *Democrat*, published at Darlington, Wisconsin, gets off a good joke. A rival paper in that place has just purchased new type for the office, and proceeds to make a blow over the matter. Whereupon the *Democrat* says: "In this, as in everything else, they are an age behind our office, which was supplied with new material years ago."

The editor of the *Montgomery Mail* writes from Louisville:—"Yesterday I had an interview with Mr. Prentice. He is not the man he was ten years ago. Indeed, his genius is gone and his person is a mere wreck. His family is broken up—wife dead, one son killed on the Confederate side, another settled on a farm down the river—and the old man, verging on threescore and ten, cooks his breakfast and dinner on the third floor of the *Courier* building, and lives only in conversation about the past. This man once wielded an imperial power, but it is now departed for ever.

At the annual meeting of the New York State Associated Press, held at the Metropolitan Hotel, New York, on the 19th of May, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Joseph Warren, of the *Buffalo Courier*; Secretary and Treasurer, Ellis H. Roberts, of the *Utica Herald and Gazette*; Executive Committee, Jacob C. Cuyler, of the *Albany Express*; H. O. R. Tucker, of the *Troy Times*; C. E. Smith, of the *Syracuse Journal*; George G. Cooper, of the *Rochester Union and Advertiser*; and Mr. Thurston, of the *Elmira Advertiser*.

SOL.

Henry J. Raymond, editor of the *New York Times*, died of apoplexy on the 18th June.

Mark Twain, in one of his rambling letters, draws the following picture:—"Cannot you fancy the ancient editor of the Connecticut *Courant* of a hundred years ago, in round Ben Franklin spectacles, wig, and cue, lace cuffs, coat pocket flaps like a cellar door, long waistcoat, knee-breeches, stockings, low quarter shoes with

buckles on them like a window-sash—a man gravely culling “news” three weeks old; and “per latest advices” about Colonel Bouquet’s forces having crossed the river at Pittsburg, fully thirty days gone by; and thrilling rumours of war from Madrid, London, Versailles, Stockholm, and the Hague, with the mildews of four awful months on them, and venerable canards a hundred days from Naples, telling how “between three and four hundred thousand” citizens had lately died of plague in that little kingdom—a man exulting over his little old sensation despatches and late dates, and never, strangely enough, never having a vision of 1869 flash through his complacent brain with its revelations of telegraphs and locomotives—I say, can’t you fancy this old muff sitting at his desk and getting off a bit of sarcasm, and holding it up and cooking his eye at it, and reading it over, and chuckling to himself, and reading it again, and calling in the “devil” and inflicting it on him, and then sending it to the printers perfectly satisfied that it is the best and boldest and the awfulest crusher that ever thundered from the Press—can’t you? I will let this old buffer go. I don’t wish to be too hard on him, lest I meet his musty ghost prowling about his ancient haunts, in Hartford here, some night. Where be his comrades? Whither went he to take his ale? Who was he, anyhow?”—*Printers’ Circular*.

Some of the new weeklies are meeting but slight success, we hear, in spite of the heavy capital and creditable energy with which they have been started. This may be partly owing to the general stagnation of which people in nearly all branches of business complain, and partly owing to a misapprehension—only, of course, to be rectified by experience—of the public needs. We hold that no journal can take what is called a first-class position which fills its columns with second-hand matter copied from foreign publications, nor, however useful for some purposes, can such a position be maintained by a journal giving much space to the needs of the kitchen, sewing-room, and nursery. Such papers have their niche, and a respectable and worthy niche it is; but there is a hopeless incompatibility between the requirements of minds in search of such pabulum and those looking for trustworthy disquisitions on subjects of higher importance. The task of attracting and retaining the interest of readers widely opposite in tastes and knowledge has been tried very often, and has usually failed. To illustrate an attempted cross between the *Saturday Review* and the *Young Gardener’s Assistant* would hardly pay in practice. We imagine that the public like—in everything but the dailies, in which they take kindly to a slap-dash, neck-or-nothing mess of everything, and in which they forgive haste and crudity readily enough—either fish, flesh, or fowl in journalism, and prefer not to have them hashed up together. However, as hinted before, the crucial test is the best, and it will not take very long to see which are the iron pots and which the earthen ones.—*Round Table*.

CHINA.

Mr. F. J. Angier, the editor of the *London and China Express*, has been making a visit to China, collecting information on topics of importance for his paper, and, we understand, making arrangements for its improvement. He is at present in Singapore, and intends, after remaining here a few days, to visit Batavia.—*Straits Observer*, April 13.

AUSTRALIA.

I will give you a list of the newspapers published in Queensland, which will show you that we are not very far behind for a population of 100,000:—Brisbane: *Courier* (daily), *Queensland Express* (bi-weekly), *Queenslander* (weekly), *Journal of Commerce* (monthly). Ipswich: *Queensland Times* (tri-weekly). Toowoomba: *Darling Downs Gazette* (tri-weekly), *Chronicle* (bi-weekly). Warwick: *Argus* (bi-weekly), *Examiner and Times* (weekly). Dalby: *Herald* (weekly). Maryborough: *Chronicle* (tri-weekly). Gympie: *Times* (tri-weekly). Gladstone: *Observer* (weekly). Rockhampton: *Bulletin* (tri-weekly), *Northern Argus* (tri-weekly). Clermont: *Peakt Downs Telegram* (weekly). Mackay: *Mercury* (weekly). Bowen: *Port Denison Times* (weekly). Townsville: *Cleveland Bay Express* (weekly). I don’t think you can equal this in England among a similar population.—*Printers’ Register*.

A new organ of Catholic opinion started in London on June 5th, under the title of the *Catholic World*.

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—JUNE 3.

(Sittings in Banco, before the LORD CHIEF BARONS and Barons BRAMWELL, CHANNELL, and CLEASBY.)

COX v. LEE.

This was an application for a rule for a new trial in the case of the two Leicester newspapers reported in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* of last month. But the judges were unanimously of opinion that there were no grounds for a new trial, and the rule was discharged accordingly.

JUDGES’ CHAMBERS.—JUNE 4.

An application was made to Master Bennett, on the part of the proprietors of a daily newspaper, to consolidate two actions brought for penalties on account of advertisements inserted in the paper offering rewards for the recovery of property lost or stolen on which “no questions will be asked.” Under an old Act of Parliament—the 28th Geo. II., cap. 19, sec. 1, for the prevention of thefts, &c.—the newspaper inserting such an advertisement was alleged to be liable to 50*l.* penalty. There were two separate actions, which the solicitors for the newspapers applied to consolidate, but which the attorney for the plaintiff objected to, as the advertisements were inserted at different periods. On the other side no objection would be raised; and the object was to save the expense of two actions.

Master Bennett said he would look into a cited case to see whether the present actions could be consolidated, as the dates were different in the insertion of the advertisement.

The matter stood over.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—JUNE 14.

(Sittings at Nisi Prius before Mr. Baron MARTIN and Special Juries.)

JACKSON, M.P., v. BELL.

This was an action for libel. The defendant pleaded not guilty. Mr. Huddleston, Q.C., Mr. Serjeant Atkinson, and Mr. Anderson for the plaintiff; Mr. Davidson, Q.C., and Mr. Alfred Wills for the defendant.

The plaintiff, Mr. Ralph Ward Jackson, was the founder of West Hartlepool, and when the Hartlepoons were constituted a borough under the last Reform Act, he presented himself as a candidate in the Conservative interest. Political feeling ran very high during the election, but on the declaration of the poll Mr. Jackson, who had been returned by a small majority, offered to shake hands with his opponents, and make up all differences. On the 28th November, 1868, there appeared in a paper published by the defendant, the *South Durham and Cleveland Mercury*, a letter signed by “A Liberal Member of the Liberal Committee,” referring to Mr. Jackson’s offer, and containing the following passages: “I, for one, reject his impertinent proposition, and tell him in reply, that not only is his claim (to represent the borough) not recognised, but we are in possession of abundant cases well ascertained and unquestionably of the clearest personation of the living, and the grossest misrepresentation of the dead, wherewith to unseat him. If the most disgraceful bribery and corruption, paralleled only in the worst days of Nottingham and Yarmouth, or the bloated ‘pot-wallopers’ of York; if beer-houses thrown open and drink scattered with lavish liberality to all, with strangers dexterously retained to do the dirty work, and then retreating under the cover of the night to escape identification; if drunkenness and debauchery of the grossest quality, constitute titles to your consideration and esteem—then, indeed, is Ralph Ward Jackson entitled to the position he assumes.” The writer went on to say that on the day he took his seat in the House of Commons he would find a petition against his return, and that before many days were over they would pull him down from his pedestal, and return him back upon his clerical and Tory friends for consolation and sympathy. The letter concluded thus: “I promise that before this memorable year has run its course we shall have put our case so triumphantly before the judges of the court as to leave not a shadow of a doubt that this apostle of unrighteousness and corruption will be expelled from the house with every mark of derision and scorn. I cast back all

the poetry and maudlin sentiment he so affectionately entreats us to accept. Our cry is, 'to the gibbet;' and like the Jew of old—

"We have him on the hip,
And it shall go hard
But we will better the instruction."

A petition was presented in due course against Mr. Jackson's return, but when it came on for trial before Mr. Justice Blackburn the counsel for the petitioners confessed he had no case, and consented to pay all the expenses of Mr. Jackson, who was consequently declared duly returned.

In opening the case Mr. Huddleston said that as the defendant had refused to apologise for these serious allegations against the plaintiff, he claimed heavy damages.

Mr. Baron Martin suggested that the case was one for amicable settlement, and on the application of the leading counsel on each side, his lordship granted them a private interview with a view to an arrangement.

Mr. Davidson, on returning into court said the letter had been written during the heat of the political antagonism that existed in the borough, and did contain libellous matter of which Mr. Jackson had a right to complain; but immediately after the decision of Mr. Justice Blackburn the defendant published an ample apology in a newspaper. The defendant now entirely retracted the charges, which he said were without foundation, and expressed his regret at having circulated them, and apologised to the plaintiff.

Mr. Huddleston, on the part of the plaintiff, accepted this apology, and, subject to a private arrangement, a verdict was entered for the plaintiff—damages, 40s.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—JUNE 17.

MERRIMAN V. SEARS.

This was an action for libel brought by Mr. Josiah J. Merriman, solicitor, of King-street, Cheapside, a member of the council of the late Reform League, against the printer of the *Commercial World*, a newly-established weekly paper, in respect of certain articles reflecting on plaintiff's conduct as solicitor to the Hercules Insurance Company. Mr. Digby Seymour was opening the case for the plaintiff, when Serjeant Parry, for defendant, offered an apology and retraction of all charges, which was accepted, and a verdict taken by consent for forty shillings.

BAIL COURT.—JUNE 21.

(After-Term Nisi-Prisus Sittings at Westminster, before Mr. Justice HANNEN and a Special Jury.)

HON. F. W. CADOGAN V. PIPER—LIBEL.

This was an action for libel. The defendant pleaded not guilty, and a justification.

Mr. Henry James and Mr. Watkin Williams were counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Giffard, Q.C., and Mr. M'Namara were counsel for the defendant.

The libel consisted of an article published, during the last election, in the defendant's paper, the *North Wilts Herald*, upon the plaintiff, the Hon. F. W. Cadogan, the Liberal M.P. for Cricklade, imputing to him that while acting as deputy chairman of the Submarine Telegraph Company, he made use of messages sent by other parties through the wires for Stock-Exchange speculations; and reflecting upon his connection with Veillard, the refreshment contractor for the International Exhibition of 1862. The hearing of the case occupied five days.

His Lordship, in summing up, observed that the articles complained of, which were published in the *North Wilts Herald*, were of a very grave character, and if proved, they were such as must drive the plaintiff into private life. Although it might appear to be cruel and wicked to reproduce charges that had been allowed to slumber for years, yet it was the right and the duty of a public writer to fairly and honestly instruct the public with reference to them. A man who had been guilty of such charges had far better remain in obscurity than challenge public inquiry, especially on coming forward as a candidate for the suffrage of a constituency to represent them in Parliament. His lordship proceeded to comment on the charges *seriatim*, and in reference to the principal one, that with regard to Baron Rothschild's message, he said that unquestionably it was true that Rothschild's message had the precedence, or why did the plaintiff go on the Sunday with Sandi-

lands to the office to examine the messages, after having received a copy of Evans's letter that had been sent to the *Times*. With regard to the message from Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to Lord Clarendon, it was for the jury to conjecture whether his order for the sale of the £40,000 stock was given before or after the message had been received. The fact of the receipt of the message on that day was undoubtedly true.

The Jury were locked up from ten minutes to twelve until five minutes past two o'clock, when they came into court with a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £20, but they were sent back to consider whether they found that justification had not been proved wholly or in part.

At a quarter past four o'clock the jury returned into court with a verdict for the plaintiff on all the counts.

Damages £20.

CONSOLIDATED CHAMBER, DUBLIN.—JUNE 22.

(Before Mr. Justice GEORGE.)

NAGLE V. GILMAN.

Mr. Wm. O'Brien applied for liberty to plead several defences. The action was brought for libel by the proprietor of the *Cork Herald* against the proprietor of the *Cork Reporter*. The summons and plaint set out several articles of which the plaintiff complained, and which, he alleged, were published of him in his private and professional character. The plaintiff, in addition to being a newspaper proprietor, is a solicitor and member of the Cork Town Council. The pleas sought to be pleaded were that the alleged libels were not published of the plaintiff in his professional character, that they were not published in the defamatory sense imputed, that they were no libel, and a plea of fair comment. His Lordship granted the application.

AN action brought by Mr. M'Cullagh, a Dublin merchant, against Major Knox, proprietor of the *Irish Times*, for publishing an alleged libel, contained in a letter of the Rev. Father Lavelle, reflecting upon Mr. M'Cullagh, as chairman of a Building and Land Investment Society, having an estate at Partree, occupied the Court of Queen's Bench three days. Mr. Butt and Mr. Heron were the leading counsel. Evidence was given to prove that the tenants on the Port Royal estate were well treated by the agent of the company, Mr. Proudfoot. Some of the tenants were produced, on the other side, to rebut this testimony. Mr. Lavelle constituted himself the champion of the tenants. Damages are laid at £1,000. Mr. Heron, for the defendant, urged that the question for the jury was, were those letters a libel, and had Major Knox, who threw open his paper to both sides, in one single degree transgressed those fair and legitimate bounds of public criticism upon the acts of public men as regarded the most important question of the day—the condition of Ireland? Eventually the jury were unable to agree, and were therefore discharged.

IN the libel cases of Sullivan v. Pigott of the *Irishman*, and the Same v. Donnelly of the *Flag of Ireland*, mentioned in the NEWSPAPER PRESS, permission has been granted by the Court of Exchequer in Dublin to refer the various questions at issue to arbitration.

THE Liberal party in Belfast have presented Mr. Thomas Mac-knight, editor of the *Northern Whig*, with a purse of £300, and a salver, and tea and coffee service. The Right Hon. Lord Dufferin, K.P., was in the chair on the occasion.

JOURNALISTIC FRACAS.—On the 22nd ult., Mr. Stephen Joseph Meany, the released Fenian reporter, entered the Hall of the Commercial Buildings at Cork, and demanded of Mr. D. Gillman whether he was the proprietor of the *Southern Reporter*. A warm altercation ensued, in the course of which Mr. Meany made use of some menacing language and gestures towards Mr. Gillman, but, after a short melodramatic scene, was induced to leave the room.

THE *Leader* has again shifted its skin, and entered upon a fresh phase in its somewhat chequered career. On the 18th of June it appeared in four-and-twenty small pages, as a journal of "Fashion, Literature, and Arts," price threepence. The new series does not display its claim (as the last series did), to be a lineal descendant of the original *Leader*, and we commend its modesty.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. J. F. FEENEY.

The death of Mr. John Frederick Feeney, one of the proprietors of the *Birmingham Daily Post*, and of the late *Birmingham Journal*, took place at his residence, Church Road, Edgbaston, on the 11th May, in the sixty-second year of his age. Mr. Feeney, though of Irish descent, passed the greater portion of his life in connection with the newspaper Press of Birmingham, his first engagement in the midland capital being as editor of the *Birmingham Philanthropist*, published in 1836, by Mr. Hudson, under the proprietorship of the late Mr. Joseph Sturge. The *Philanthropist* was set afloat to further the cause of emancipation, and when slavery was abolished in the British West Indies, it closed its career; and Mr. Feeney then accepted an engagement as reporter on the *Midland Counties Herald*, which he retained till 1844, when he purchased the *Birmingham Journal*. At the time, this paper was gradually decreasing in circulation; but a few months after Mr. Feeney became proprietor, it entirely retrieved its fortunes—partly owing to the railway mania of that period, which helped to fill the newspapers with advertisements. From that time the *Journal* continued to increase in circulation, until the new era of cheap daily newspapers sealed its doom; and Mr. Feeney, who had resuscitated it when almost in *extremis*, lived only a few weeks after it had ceased to exist. Mr. Feeney never took an active part in the public life of Birmingham, but was greatly respected for his kindness of heart and amiable disposition by a large circle of private friends. He had for a long time past suffered much from a bronchial affection, which prevented him from paying any active attention to business, and latterly confined him entirely to his room. He was twice married, and leaves a widow and large family to mourn his loss.

MR. EDWARD WILLMER.

The death of Mr. Edward Willmer, which was announced in this journal last month, took place at Windsor House, Huyton, near Liverpool, on the 6th of May, after a long and painful illness. The late Mr. Willmer was a native of Windsor, and was educated at the grammar-school of the royal borough. At an early age he was apprenticed to the late Mr. Knight, then proprietor of the *Windsor and Eton Express*; he was fellow-apprentice of Mr. Charles Knight, the well-known encyclopedist. After the term of his apprenticeship had expired, he was engaged as an assistant in the firm of Harris Brothers & Co., wholesale stationers of Liverpool. Here he continued about a twelvemonth, and then became a partner with Mr. Taylor, bookseller and printer, whose business was thereafter carried on under the style of Taylor and Welmer. About the year 1823-4, Mr. Willmer ceased his connection with Mr. Taylor, and commenced business on his own account, as bookseller, printer, and news-agent. Mr. Willmer soon set to work to quicken the despatch of the London papers to Liverpool, which in those days of coaching did not reach the Lancashire emporium till the second or third day. He accordingly despatched his brother-in-law, Mr. David Smith, to London, who, in conjunction with Mr. Thwaites, then proprietor of the *Morning Herald*, made arrangements to forward an early edition of the paper by the fast early coaches to Birmingham, so as to catch the evening mail from that town, and thus arrive on the morning following publication. About the year 1830, Mr. David Smith became his partner, and by their joint enterprise they became the leading newsagents of Liverpool. By a clever piece of strategy, Mr. Willmer contrived to get the agency of the Exchange Newsroom, the Underwriters', the Athenæum, the Lyceum, and the Rotunda of Liverpool, which had hitherto been supplied with newspapers by a London agent. On the evening when Lord John Russell, as the mouthpiece of the Grey administration, rose in the House of Commons to announce the features of the first Reform Bill, Mr. Willmer conveyed the speech from London to his office in Liverpool in a shorter period than the journey had ever before taken. The postchaise, which arrived early on the following morning, contained hundreds of copies of the paper, but Mr. Willmer would not sell one at any price. He, however, fitted up his rooms for reading in during the day, and gave tickets of admission to all who applied for them, by which

means the Liverpool merchants became acquainted with the important news which he conveyed. The committees of the various institutions met in the following week, and transferred to Mr. Willmer the agency for supplying the metropolitan journals. In course of time the agency of four of the best established morning journals fell into his hands—that is, his staff of employes furnished the journals with all intelligence connected with the port and district, and the office thus became a vast emporium of news. In 1843, Mr. Willmer started the *European Times*, which was a digest of general news for English readers abroad. In 1849, Messrs. Willmer and Smith purchased the *Liverpool Chronicle*, a Liberal journal. In September, 1868, Mr. Willmer sold the copyright of the *European Times* to the proprietors of the *European Mail*, the two journals being now amalgamated; and the *Liverpool Chronicle*, after an existence of more than a century, was discontinued. The deceased gentleman erected the Willmer Buildings, a portion of which is now occupied as a newspaper and printing-office. Mr. Willmer's only son is a partner in the firm of Willmer and Rogers, of New York. Mr. Willmer was buried in the Necropolis, near Liverpool, on May 12.

Home Subjects.

THE title of the *A. B. C. Advertiser* has been changed to the *Weekly Telegraph*.

THE "QUEEN'S MESSENGER" is discontinued, but a new paper has sprung from its ashes called the *Plain Speaker*.

MR. WILLS, Mr. Dickens's coadjutor in the editorship of *All the Year Round*, is stated to be suffering from paralysis.

ON the 15th ult. the copyright of *Once a Week* was offered for sale by Messrs. Hodgson. It was knocked down at £160, but it was understood to have been bought in by the proprietors.

"NOW-A-DAYS," a new monthly magazine, will make its appearance on the 1st July, and with it will be amalgamated *Woman's World* and *Kettledrum*.

HALFPENNY STAMPS FOR NEWSPAPERS.—The General Post Office is prosecuting the inquiry which we are assured will lead to the issue of the halfpenny stamp for newspapers and circulars.

DURING the year 1868 no less than 187 newspapers were started in England, and 32 journals in pamphlet form. On the last day of the year there survived of these only 36 newspapers and three pamphlets.

MR. JOHN WHITTAKER, whose letters in the *Times* under the signature of "A Lancashire Lad," led to the formation of the Mansion-house Relief Fund, and who during the last few years has been engaged upon the *Daily Telegraph*, has joined the staff of the *Echo*.

EARL RUSSELL AND THE "TIMES."—A contemporary states that Earl Russell never allows a copy of the *Times* in his house. We are happy to hear that his Lordship's feelings towards the Newspaper Press are of a very different character, he having been long a subscriber to this journal.

GERMAN DAILY PAPER.—In the German colony in London, a new joint-stock company has been formed for establishing a daily paper in the German language. It is understood that the editorship has been offered to the former editor of the *Hermann*, which sufficiently indicates the line of politics to be pursued. It will appear this day, and will be similar in form and price to the English penny papers.

MR. W. WRIGHT, of Newcastle-street, Strand, has republished No. 1 of the *Times* newspaper. Its full title runs, "The Times, or Daily Universal Register, Printed Logographically, Tuesday, January 1, 1788, Price Threepence;" and the imprint is not a little curious, "London: Printed for J. Walter, at the Logographic Press, Printing House-square, near Apothecaries' Hall, Blackfriars, where Advertisements, Essays, Letters, and Articles of Intelligence will be taken in; also at Mr. Mettenius's, Confectioner, Charing Cross; Mr. Whiteave's, Watchmaker, No. 80, opposite St. Dunstan's Church, Fleet-street; Mr. Artell's, No. 1, Finch-lane, Cornhill; at Mr. Bushby's, No. 1, Catherine-street, Strand; Mr. Rosse's, Silk-dyer, Spring-gardens; and Mr. Grieve's, Stationer, No. 108, corner of Fountain-court, Strand."

THE first number of a new art periodical, called the *Portfolio*, of which Philip Gilbert Hamerton, the eminent artist and art

writer, is editor will appear July 1. It will be monthly, and Mr. Sealey, of Fleet Street, will be the publisher. Mr. Hamerton proposes to make the paper more artistic than critical in its character, giving several illustrations in each issue. The first number will contain sixteen pages and five illustrations, but it is hoped that after a little the print and illustrations will be doubled. Mr. Hamerton works daily at his easel, yet his literary engagements are enough to overwhelm an ordinary man. In addition to the editorship of the *Portfolio*, the burden of which will fall on him, he has engagements with the *Saturday Review*, the *Pall Mall Gazette*, and the *Fortnightly Review*. He has lately sold the copyright of a novel which is yet unfinished to Messrs. Blackwood, of Edinburgh, and has agreed to contribute to the *Atlantic* and *Putnam's Monthly*. Besides all this he is expected to join a literary club on the model of the old *Spectator*, which will publish its productions in the *Globe* newspaper.

Why is a newspaper reporter like a pickpocket?—Because he takes notes, and must have quick fingers to do it.

ERRORS OF THE PRESS.—People complain of or laugh at an "error of the Press," without reflecting that every column of our daily papers contains from ten to twenty thousand minute pieces of metal, the misplacing of any one of which would cause a blunder. Taking this fact into consideration, is not the general accuracy of the newspapers much more remarkable than an occasional error?

Notes and Queries.

A YOUNG ASSISTANT.—The London Correspondent of a first class provincial paper is a very different personage from the hack-writer of the stereotyped or half-printed country papers, and your success depends upon considerations of education, political and social standing and experience. You cannot jump into it at once. Members of both the universities, barristers-at-law, and men who have made a mark in letters are not above the work (and, until they have gained their relative positions, not qualified for it) on the leading country papers. We could name at least two Members of Parliament who are London Correspondents. If your ambition lie in that direction and your standing in the London world be equal to it, you will find profitable employment; if not, you will probably earn five shillings a week, and possibly ten. But there are so many in this trade, that the lower sum is the most likely scale of payment. Can't you sweep a crossing? From the style of your composition, we really think you could make a better living by it.

J. J.—How often, we wonder, shall we have enquiries about the same "firm." Once again we reply they are swindlers. Do not take their advertisements without the money, and even then have it tested.

R. L. M.—Your communication is under consideration. It would facilitate matters if you sent us your private address.

"THE LAW OF LIBEL."—In consequence of a pressure upon our columns the tenth article on this subject must stand over till next month.

Obituary.

BOGNOR, A., proprietor of the *Süddeutsche Post*, at Munich.
DE SAVOYE, JOSEPH, London correspondent of the *Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung*, in London.

HENGSTONBERG, ERNST WILHOLM, D.D., founder and editor of the *Evangelische Kirchen Zeitung* at Berlin.

CLOCKEY, HENRY, lately editor of the *New York Sunday Mercury*.

RAYMOND, HENRY J., editor of the *New York Times*, of apoplexy, on the 18th of June.

WENTZEL, RUDOLPH, since 1830, Russian official journalist, at Berlin.

BANKRUPTS.

AMBLER, EDWARD, Westbourne-terrace, Westbourne-square, reporter.

FRAMPTON, CAROLINE, Newport, Isle of Wight, newsagent.

IZARD, CORNELIUS, Bromley, Kent, newspaper reporter.

MACKEY, ROBERT, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, newsvendor.

PARTNERSHIP DISSOLVED.

BATES & Co., Old Jury, advertising agents.

60 INVALUABLE TRADE RECEIPTS!

PRINTERS' LEY made for 2d. a gallon; to make, re-cast, and new-face Rollers to make Editors' Manifold and Carbonic Papers; Printing, Writing, and Copying Inks: Paste, Glue, Gum, &c. &c. How? See "CRISP'S SHEET OF TRADE RECEIPTS" (Demy broadside). Seven Stamps. W. Crisp, "Independent," Yarmouth.

J. & B. DELLAGANA

Are prepared to furnish estimates for the supply of STEREOTYPE and ELECTROTYPE WORK at prices as low as any house in the Trade, as their experience for many years has been very extensive, both in the Book-work and Type-high Departments. Newspapers cast to any size, either in whole pages or in columns.

Surface Plates for Engravers always in Stock at the Lowest Price. N.B.—Every information given, and estimates and prices for Stereotyp Machinery sent to all parts upon application.

106 and 107, SHOE LANE, FLEET STREET, E.C.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

MESSRS. BANFIELD & BARBER,

(LATE OF 80, SHOE LANE.)

Designers and Engravers on Wood, Block and Wood Type Cutters,

MANUFACTURERS OF PRINTING MATERIALS, ETC.,

HAVE REMOVED TO MORE SPACIOUS AND CONVENIENT PREMISES,

5, RACQUET COURT, FLEET ST.

(Twelve Doors from Farringdon Street.)

Messrs. B. & B. take this opportunity of returning their thanks to their numerous patrons who have favoured them with their support during the time they have been in business, and have much pleasure in announcing, that, emboldened by the encouragement already received, they have taken the above commodious premises, and have added STEAM POWER to their machinery, which will enable them to execute, with the utmost expedition, any orders entrusted to them.

Engineers' Name Plates for Castings.

Soap Stamps, Sack Marks, Monograms, &c.

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Buildings, Machinery, &c., Sketched or Photographed for Illustrating Purposes.

DESIGNERS OF SHOW CARDS IN ONE OR MORE COLOURS FOR ADVERTISING, &c.

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Patent "Moss" Rubber Inking Roller.

S. MOULTON & CO., KINGSTON INDIA RUBBER MILLS, BRADFORD-ON-AVON,

BEG to call the attention of the Printing Trade generally to their PATENT "MOSS" RUBBER INKING ROLLER, composed of a new and homogeneous material of the consistency of Moss, and hermetically sealed in a smooth skin of specially prepared India Rubber.

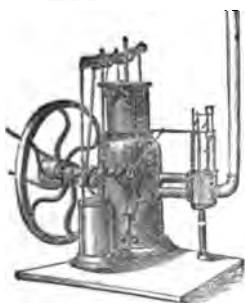
The advantages they claim for these Rollers, as compared with the ordinary Composition Rollers, are,—

1. Their great durability, on account of the unchangeable nature of the material.
2. They are wholly unaffected by any temperature.
3. They are not damaged by brass rule.
4. They are permanently soft and elastic.
5. They can be used immediately after being washed.

These Patent "Moss" Rubber Inking Rollers, can be obtained from no other parties than as above; and Notice is hereby given that the necessary legal steps will be taken where requisite, to protect S. Moulton's Patent for the manufacture of "Moss" Rubber from all infringement.

N.B.—The Ink must be washed off these Rollers before laid by. Alkalies only may be used, such as Pearlash, Potash, or Ammonia. Turpentine, and every kind of Oil, Soft Soap, or Grease, must be carefully avoided. Bisulphuret of Carbon will clean off Coloured Inks.

PRICE.—Hand Rollers, Eight Shillings per foot length, three inches outside diameter; length under one foot, 9d. per inch. Iron Fittings charged cost price, 9d. per foot. Machine Rollers charged according to dimensions. Iron Fittings at cost price.



IT REQUIRES NO ENGINEER.
IT REQUIRES NO WATER.

IT REQUIRES NO GAS.
IT REQUIRES NO FITTING.
IT CAN BE STARTED IN A FEW MINUTES.

IT CANNOT EXPLODE.
IT DOES NOT INCREASE INSURANCE.

THE PRINTERS' ENGINE.

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THE ABOVE ENGINE IS BY FAR THE MOST ECONOMICAL MOTIVE POWER KNOWN.

COST OF WORKING, ONE PENNY PER HORSE POWER PER HOUR.

Sold by HUGHES & KIMBER, West Harding Street, Fetter Lane, London.

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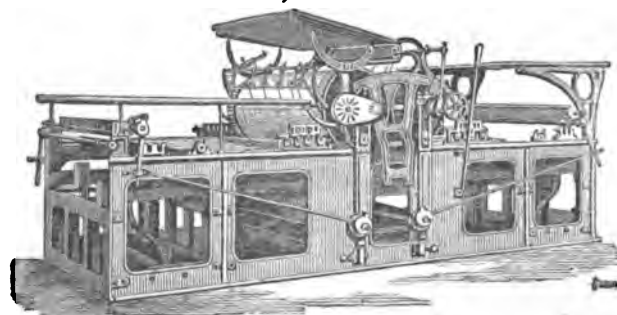
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Fast Perfecting

GRIPPER MACHINES,

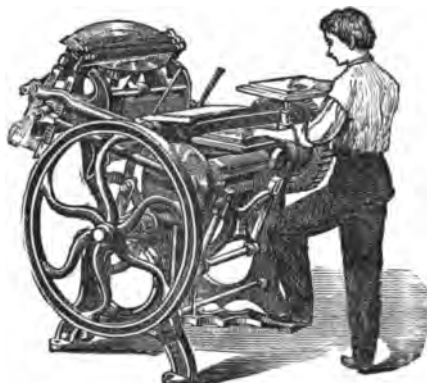


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H. S. CROPPER & CO.'S PATENT "MINERVA" PRINTING MACHINE.

This is the most Compact, Elegant, and Speedy,
Platen Machine ever made.
CAN BE WORKED BY HAND, FOOT, OR STEAM.

One Youth may Print



2,500 Impressions per Hour.

MAY BE SEEN AT WORK DAILY AT
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Patentees and Manufacturers;
AND AT THE OFFICE OF THE LONDON AGENT,
S. CROPPER, 70, CHEAPSIDE.

TESTIMONIALS.

31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

Messrs. H. S. CROPPER and Co.

GENTLEMEN,—We have pleasure in informing you that the "Minerva" Printing Machine, supplied to us about two months ago, gives us entire satisfaction. The simplicity of its arrangement, beauty of construction, and excellence of workmanship, combined with its other qualifications, justify all that you told us in its favour. The ease of its motion, and its great speed, are important features in the "Minerva;" whilst the freedom from danger in working assists in rendering it a very desirable machine.

Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

Messrs. CROPPER and Co., Nottingham.

GENTLEMEN,—We most willingly give our testimony to the value and efficiency of your "Minerva" Machine, especially with regard to its speed and economy. We consider it the most useful time-saving machine that has come under our notice.

We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
CURTIS and BEAMISH.

6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

DEAR SIR,—We have pleasure in stating that the "Minerva" Machine supplied to us gives satisfaction in every respect.

As a Machine for Cards and Small Jobs, we consider it unequalled, both in quality of work and the ease by which Jobs can be started.

Your Machine deserves a large sale.

Yours truly (for M'CORQUODALE and Co.),

D. CULROSS.

Since the above testimonial was given, Messrs. M'Corquodale and Co. have ordered a second machine.

Messrs. CROPPER and Co.

Halifax, 23rd October, 1867.

GENTLEMEN,—The "Minerva" gives entire satisfaction. Every movement is smooth and easy, and the machine may, on this account, be run at a very high speed without danger. The distribution is perfect, and the forme is rolled more evenly than could be done by hand. We are very much pleased with it.

We are, Gentlemen, yours most truly,
T. and W. BIRTWHISTLE.

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Elegantly-designed Business Cards
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TRADE CIRCULARS AND
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22 & 23, CHISWELL STREET, LONDON, E.C.

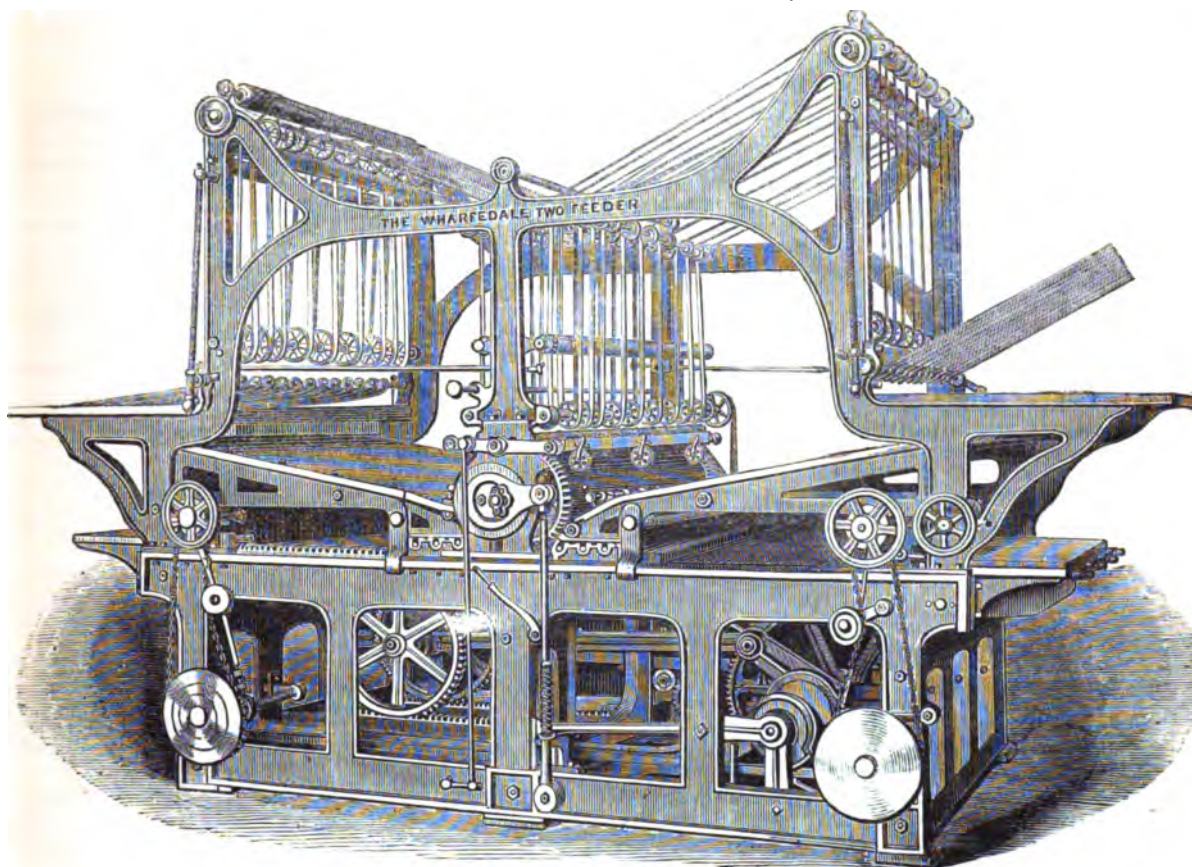
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Special attention is given to Newspaper Founts, which are cast in extra Hard Metal, combined with the most accurate manufacture.

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WITH PATENT FLYERS, FOR DELIVERING THE SHEETS PRINTED SIDE UPWARDS.

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THE WHARFEDALE TWO-FEEDER PRINTING MACHINE (to print 3,500 per hour).
 THE WHARFEDALE CYLINDER ditto (to print 1,500 per hour).
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 " DIAGONAL AND VERTICAL PAPER CUTTING MACHINES for Steam and Hand Power.
 " IMPERIAL PAPER CUTTING MACHINE.

Also, Millboard and Card Cutting Machines, Label Cutting Machine for Steam and Hand Power, Rolling Machine for Bookbinders and Printers, with Cast and Chilled Rollers; Paper Ruling Machines, Perforating Machines, Ink Grinding Mills, for Steam Power; Athol and Screw Presses, Steam Engines, Boilers, Shafting, &c.; Book-Sawing and Book-Scoring Machines, Iron Imposing Surfaces and Stands, Machine and Press Roller Moulds, Wrought and Cast Iron Chases, Side and Foot Sticks.

LONDON AGENTS:

HUGHES and KIMBER, West Harding Street, Fetter Lane, E.C.

PATENT IMPROVED Lithographic Cylinder Gripper Machine,

For Chromo, Chalk, or ordinary work, capable of producing from 500 to 1,000 Impressions per Hour.

The ADVANTAGES of the LITHOGRAPHIC MACHINE may be briefly stated as,

1. **FACILITY IN MAKING READY.**—Owing to the great simplicity of the mechanical arrangements, and entire absence of complex movements, the stone can be adjusted with perfect ease—in fact, the time required is scarcely more than on an ordinary Press, thus enabling short numbers to be worked with economy.

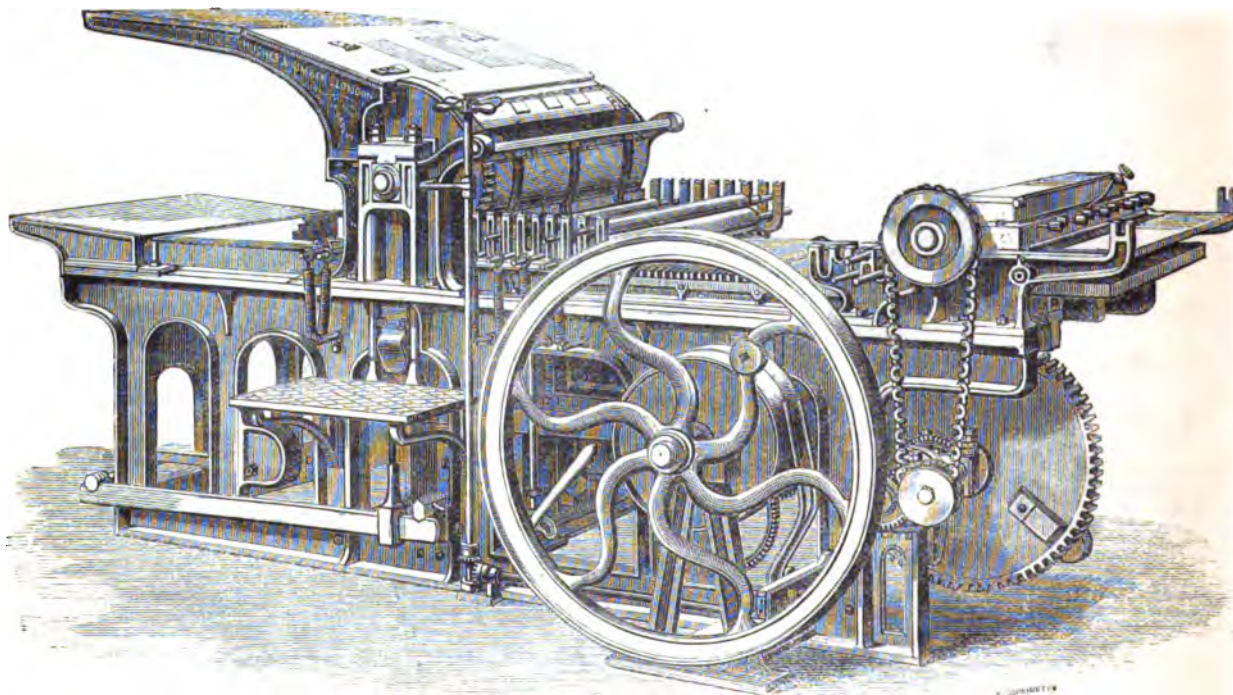
2. **THE ROLLERS** being made from the very best French leather, great uniformity of pressure is obtained, causing so little damage to the work on the stone as to allow as many as 20,000 impressions to be taken from a single transfer. In many cases the quantity printed has far exceeded that number.

3. **VARYING SPEEDS.**—A pair of Cone Pulleys and Countershaft, &c., may be used, by means of which the Printer can change the speed, so as to yield any given number of impressions per hour.

4. **THE INKING APPARATUS** is entirely self-acting, and the damping as nearly so as experience warrants. If desired, the damping can be entirely self-acting; but it is open to many objections, especially in the fine descriptions of colour work. The supply of ink is varied at will with the greatest nicety.

5. **REGISTERING COLOUR WORK.**—In registering colour work, points on the Cylinder and guides on the Feed-table are used; the Cylinder stopping at every revolution sufficient time to enable the layer-on to point with the greatest accuracy. The position of the Feed-table and the stopping of the Cylinder are peculiar to this Machine alone.

6. **STONE NEVER LOST SIGHT OF.**—The Stone is never lost sight of by the Printer. This very great advantage is possessed by no other Machine.



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Blocks for all kinds of Colour Printing executed in the finest Style of the Art.

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PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING,
Unstamped 8d., Stamped 4d.,
THE BANBURY GUARDIAN,
AND GENERAL ADVERTISER,
FOR THE COUNTIES OF
OXFORD, NORTHAMPTON, WARWICK, BUCKINGHAM,
WORCESTER, AND GLOUCESTER.
ESTABLISHED 1838.

The peculiar local position of Banbury, the Town standing in two Counties and within a few miles of four others, together with the rapidly rising importance of the place, renders the GUARDIAN an eligible medium for Advertisers: in many instances superseding the necessity of Advertising in Five County Papers, with the additional advantage to Advertisers of circulating largely amongst those classes that have money to spend.
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THE BARNSELY CHRONICLE
(ESTABLISHED 1858),
PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY EVENING AND SATURDAY.
CIRCULATION OVER 8,000 COPIES WEEKLY.

The Leading Weekly Paper in the South Yorkshire Coal, Iron, Linen, and Agricultural District, and the best Advertising Medium in its locality.
Proprietor, THOMAS LINGARD, Peel-square, Barnsley.

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To Printers, Stationers, Editors, Bookbinders, Lithographers, Copperplate Printers, Compositors, Type Founders, Paper and Ink Makers, and the Trade Generally.

Now Ready (July, 1869),
Another Edition (8rd) Extenuated and Improved, Foolscap 8vo., 92 pages, bound in Cloth, post free 3s Stamps.

THE PRINTERS' BUSINESS GUIDE, GENERAL PRICE
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PRACTICAL INFORMATION.—Tables for giving out paper: sizes of type and paper; composing stick measures; punctuation; imposition; how to make an estimate; worth of composition; improved "lay" of cases; practical information; Acts of Parliament, &c.

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HAD Mr. Grenville Murray been an avowed member of the journalistic profession, or had the *Queen's Messenger* established its right to be ranked among respectable and legitimate newspapers, we should almost have shrunk from what would nevertheless have been our obvious duty—to allude to the great scandal of the past month; at all events we should have performed it with a sense of pain and humiliation. But it is, happily, our simple duty to deny that Mr. Murray is a professional journalist, and to entirely repudiate the *Queen's Messenger* as the representative of any party, political, religious, or social. It was, in fact, merely the organ of Mr. Grenville Murray and his friends.

The appearance of this Ishmaelitic print was announced in the February number of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*—the first number having come out on the 21st January. It in time acquired a moderate amount of notice by its attacks upon Mr. Bidwell; but emboldened and stimulated by the attention it had attracted, it "went in" for a virulent course of articles on individuals under a transparent gauze which might save it from the righteous visitation of the libel law, but left the parties attacked clearly open to the identification of the initiated. These articles were trenchant and strong, it must be admitted, and some of them were supposed to be written by Mr. Grenville Murray himself. Whether they were or were not remains to be proved. His singularly cautious and reserved, not to say uncandid replies to direct questions might, with some minds, tend to confirm such a suspicion. But Mr. Murray is an old diplomatist and, as such, may be excused for "fencing" direct questions and thoroughly appreciating the legal axiom, that no man can be made to criminate himself. The next phase in this curious history we would fain pass over, as it is utterly discreditable to all parties concerned. An article appeared in the *Queen's Messenger* reflecting on Lord Carington's grandfather in terms which no gentleman would have condescended to use—certainly no journalist with any respect for his profession. Lord Carington, whose only excuse in the matter is his youth, very properly resented this piece of impertinence; but resorted to very improper means to punish it. Instead of treating it with the contempt which it merited, or appealing to the reprobation of the Press, which it had incurred, he, assuming Mr. Murray to be the slanderer, called him out of his club at midnight, and struck him with a stick. Herein Lord Carington put himself clearly in

the wrong. It is not true, as has been asserted, that the law was open to him; for, in the first place, we are not aware that the law of libel gives a man any redress for a slander on his grandfather; and, in the second place, Mr. Grenville Murray not being the registered proprietor of the paper, could not be reached directly by the law; but still Lord Carington had no right to take the law in his own hands, and chivalrous spirit and young and hot blood go a very little way to excuse a positive breach of Her Majesty's peace, let the provocation be what it may. However, the assistant judge and the jury considering his lordship had received very great annoyance, he was merely bound over to keep the peace, and public opinion approves of the leniency of the sentence. But the trial threw a light on the highly disgraceful scene that occurred at Marlborough-street police-court on the examination of Lord Carington. It appears that Mr. Bidwell, who had quietly submitted to the attacks of the *Queen's Messenger* upon himself, was goaded to resentment by a slanderous article on his wife. In order to prove the writing of the libel against Mr. Grenville Murray for the purpose of an action, certain manuscripts, consisting of the original "copy" and corrected proofs, were got under some sort of pressure from Mr. Rankin, the printer of the paper, and it was in the hope of recovering these manuscripts that the disgraceful attack was made upon Mr. Newman, the custodian of the box which contained them. As the possession of the box was retained *vi et arms*, we may presume the libel action will proceed, while Mr. Murray is also likely to stand upon his trial for perjury committed on that occasion. Mr. Rankin, in the course of his evidence at the Sessions House, stated that he had warned Mr. Murray that the articles were getting "too hot," but it was in vain; and, painful as it is to see a man of Mr. Murray's age, former position, and education in such a position, we cannot but hope that, if proved to be the writer, he will receive the punishment which authors of scurrilous papers deserve; and we fervently trust that we may hear no more of the *Queen's Messenger*.

THE Newspapers, &c., Repeal Act has now become the law of the land, and it is no longer required of newspaper proprietors that they should give securities against damages for libel. The Act also abolishes the registration at Somerset House, and other antiquated and obsolete regulations, as we fully explained in our June number. But a question of serious importance supervenes upon these changes. The authorities at Stationers' Hall do not recognise the registration at Somerset House, and it is therefore doubtful whether the whole of the newspapers in the kingdom are not without protection for their titles until they are entered at Stationers' Hall. A complaint is made that it should be necessary to incur the expense and trouble of a new registration, which might easily be avoided by transferring the existing register from Somerset House. At the latter place anyone was entitled to see the newspaper register gratuitously, and he then had before him the titles of all the newspapers in the kingdom. At Stationers' Hall an investigator is allowed to see only the title of the paper for which he inquires, and has to pay a fee of 1s. for such search; and if he is anxious to avoid collision with unknown titles, he has no opportunity of doing so. This inconvenience is strictly in accordance with the Copyright Act of Parliament, and the officials refuse to receive any suggestions from the authorities or in any way to mitigate the rigours of the Act.

We speak from recent experience when we affirm that the system at Stationers' Hall is cumbrous and defective, and the officials not too civil. It would be well, therefore, for newspaper proprietors to put themselves at once in communication with the Secre-

tary of the Provincial Newspaper Society, who are preparing a deputation on the subject of Newspaper Copyright.

ONCE again has the Libel Bill fallen through. On the 14th ultimo Mr. Baines moved that the order of the day for committing the Bill be discharged; as, looking at the state of public business and the advanced period of the session, it would not be possible to proceed with it.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

X.—CHANCERY JURISDICTION IN LIBEL CASES, AND IN CASES OF THREATENED LIBELLOUS PUBLICATIONS.

Two modern cases—one occurring in June, 1867, the other in February, 1869—illustrate the jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery to award compensation in damages for injurious publications, and also to restrain, by injunction, the publication of libellous matter.

One of those cases was that of *Stubbs v. Marsh*, before Vice-Chancellor Stuart. It appeared that the late Mr. C. E. Stubbs, whose estate was under administration by the Court of Chancery, was the proprietor of a publication called *Stubbs' Weekly Gazette*, in which he was in the habit of publishing the names of bankrupts, judgment-debtors, and others. A Mr. Francis Parkes had become bankrupt, and there appeared in reference to his bankruptcy an advertisement in the *London Gazette*, in which he was described as having been formerly in partnership with Messrs. Hodgkinson and Palmer, of Birmingham. Receivers in the suit had been appointed by the Court, and it appeared that in copying from the *London Gazette* the advertisement of Mr. Parkes's bankruptcy, they had, through inadvertence, omitted Mr. Parkes's name as having been formerly in partnership with Messrs. Hodgkinson and Palmer, and inserted only those two names, making it appear, by the omission of Mr. Parkes's name, that the firm of Hodgkinson and Palmer, and not Mr. Parkes, were the bankrupts. Messrs. Hodgkinson and Palmer, complaining that they had been greatly injured by the publication, were desirous of availing themselves of their right to compensation by action at law; but on application to the Vice-Chancellor, his honour objected to such a proceeding, and referred the matter to his chief clerk to assess the amount to be paid to Messrs. Hodgkinson and Palmer for the publication complained of by them. The chief clerk thereupon inquired into the circumstances, and then certified that Messrs. Hodgkinson and Palmer were entitled to £10 by way of compensation. Those parties, however, claimed a much larger sum; but the Vice-Chancellor said that the certificate of the chief clerk awarding damages ought to be regarded as of the same effect as the verdict of a jury, and he did not feel that he should be justified in allowing the litigation to proceed further. The costs of Messrs. Hodgkinson and Palmer would, however, be added to the sum awarded, and those costs must be paid, not out of the estate, but by the receivers themselves, they being the parties through whose negligence the advertisement had been inserted. Thus all proceedings at law in this case were interdicted.

The other case to which we have alluded above was that of *Dixon v. Holder*, before Vice-Chancellor Malins. In that case the suit had been instituted to restrain the publication of certain printed notices and other documents as advertisements in the newspapers under these circumstances:—The plaintiff, a merchant at Liverpool, was, until 1851, a partner in a firm of Dixon and Forbes, merchant, at San Francisco; and in 1857 he became a partner in a firm at Liverpool, composed of himself and two brothers, who had previously been in partnership at Liverpool as Dixon Brothers. That firm, with which the plaintiff was not connected, became bankrupt in 1851; and the defendants (father and son), solicitors at Liverpool, acted professionally for the assignees until 1854, when other solicitors were appointed, and they were displaced. The plaintiff afterwards became a partner at Liverpool with his brothers, who had formed the Liverpool firm under the title of William Dixon and Co. In 1867, the defendants, annoyed at the cessation of their employment as solicitors, wrote certain letters to one of the firm, threatening to advertise, as old

assets, certain acceptances given by him prior to 1851; and in one letter was this passage, referring to the partners of the firm: "One resides in a mansion fit for a nobleman, but should he not think of his unpaid creditors and unpaid and deserted solicitors?" The plaintiff's solicitors wrote to the defendants remonstrating on their course of proceeding, the plaintiff being apprehensive that if not discontinued it would have a detrimental effect upon his mercantile character, as connecting him with a bankrupt firm with which he had no connection whatever. The defendants, however, answered only by declaring their conviction that the plaintiff and Alexander Forbes were partners in the bankrupt firm, and stating their intention to publish the printed documents in every local newspaper where any creditor resided. Upon receiving this intimation the plaintiff instituted this suit, and applied, *ex parte*, for an injunction to restrain the defendants' threatened proceedings. In support of the application it was contended that although the Court of Chancery had no power to restrain a threatened libellous publication in reference to personal character, it had jurisdiction to restrain the publication of that which was likely to affect mercantile reputation; that being a damage and detriment to the property of the party libelled, and affecting his credit. In support of this proposition, several cases were referred to as having been decided by the Court, and one case in particular was relied on, when it was held that the Court would restrain the publication of a notice which, by intimidating workmen, prevented them hiring themselves to a particular person, and so damaged his trade, and operated thus as a loss of property.

An injunction, *ex parte*, was in the present case granted by Vice-Chancellor Malins in 1867, and the case came on for hearing upon the evidence on both sides in February last, when, in giving judgment, the Vice-Chancellor said a remarkable instance was afforded by these proceedings of the utility and value of the jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery, in such cases, to interfere to prevent injury to mercantile credit and property; for it must be assumed that but for the *ex parte* injunction granted in 1867, the defendants' threats would have been carried out. It is admitted (said the Vice-Chancellor) that where property is injured, or is likely to be injured, by libellous publications, the Court has jurisdiction to interfere. What is property? Some consists of land, some of a good name and reputation; and what was threatened here would, if carried out, have been destructive to property of a most valuable description, as well as injurious to the plaintiff's good name and reputation. The good name of a merchant is as much part of his property as is his business—the destruction of the one would be the destruction of the other. The Court has, therefore, on principle and authority, power to interfere in such cases by injunction, to prevent threatened injury. In alluding to the case of *Clarke v. Freeman*, where the name of Sir James Clarke had been improperly used in reference to a prescription—which he had never written—for certain pills, it had been observed by Lord Cairns, in his judgment in *Maxwell v. Hogg*, that there was no doubt a man might have a property in his own name. I have therefore no hesitation in the present case in making the injunction perpetual—with costs as against both defendants—to restrain the publication of advertisements or other documents tending to destroy or to deteriorate property, tangible or intangible. A mercantile reputation is certainly a most valuable property in itself, and to injure it is to do a great wrong. But in this case the plaintiff's business was likely to be also seriously injured by the threatened advertisements, the motive for which, I am bound to conclude, was the cessation of the defendants' employment as solicitors for the parties, this appearing by the passage in one of the letters using the words, "unpaid and deserted solicitors."

PARTY JOURNALISM.

BY EDWARD SPENDER.

[Being another of the papers read after dinner at a private meeting of journalists in London* and now printed by permission of the writers.]

PARTY journalism is not dead though its supremacy has ceased, nor is party journalism without its use. It is useful in telling us, not only what its patrons wish us to know, but also what they wish us to think. If we want to get at the views of a party in

* See NEWSPAPER PRESS, No 31, p. 134.

the shortest time and with the least trouble, we refer to the acknowledged organ of that party. It is not necessary that the arguments should be sound; all that we want to know is, what the arguments are.

At the same time it must be admitted that party journalism is inferior journalism. It may be smartly, brilliantly written, while independent journalism may be slip-slop and dull, but not the less is the *morale* of the first below that of the second. The difference is just that which there is between the clever advocate and the sedate judge. The first puts the view of the case which makes for his client without regard to its accuracy. The second has to deal only with fact. The first has an opportunity for indulging in thrilling eloquence, or brilliant paradox; the second has to deal simply with the facts and with the law. The first will often draw forth a cheer from an excited auditory; the second is listened to with respectful, perhaps sleepy silence. Yet the first hopes to rise to the position of the second; the advocate always hopes to be a judge, and I suppose there is no honest journalist who would not rather be free to speak what he believes to be the truth, than be compelled to plead the cause of a party independently of truth.

There are several reasons why he should do so. In the first place he must feel that though there is a great similarity between the party journal and the paid counsel, their positions are not quite the same. The position of the second is thoroughly understood and recognised, and no one blames him for making out the best case for his client. But the party journal is supposed to have some sort of conscience to recognise facts. The journal may therefore deceive the public when the lawyer could not; and so the honest journalist does not like the equivocal position which party journalism involves. In the next place independent journalism gives so much more scope for writing. I have contracted a brilliant party with a dull independent journal. But there is no need why the independent journal should be dull. On the contrary, it is far more likely to be brilliant than the other. It is free to take up such subjects as give an opportunity for brilliance; it is free to let such as do not alone. The journalist who knows that he is writing in opposition to the truth cannot but feel hampered. The journalist who seeks the truth cannot but feel inspired. Honesty, in journalism, as in everything else, is the best policy. Honest journalism produces an effect and secures an influence where party journalism has none. It is right, and it pays—it pays because it is right.

ROWELL'S DIRECTORY.

II.—MR. CARP COMES UP AGAIN.

Going our round of the New York Press, we meet with no extravagant titles. There is a morning paper called the *City*, and an evening with the title of the *Day's Doings*. We are rather surprised to find an *Albion*. There are a *Day Book* and an *Iron Age* (a trade paper), the Irish element is represented by the *Irish American*, *Irish Citizen*, *Irish People*, and *Irish Republic*. A *New World* and a *Pathfinder*, a *Nick-Nac*, and an *Old Guard*, are the most out-of-the-way titles we can find among the metropolitan journals. A supposed comic monthly bears the title of the *Phunny Phellow*, and the religious and temperance societies have invented some odd names for some of their "organs;" but these can scarcely rank as general newspapers. Leaving the city, and roaming over the State, we find at Rome, a town on the Mohawk river, a paper with the startling title the *Roman Citizen*—at Sag Harbour, there is a *Corrector*; and at Schenectady, a *Reflector* and a *Dorpien*; and a *Reunion* advocates conciliation at Watertown. Some of our readers may be disappointed, perhaps, at finding so little of an exciting character among the papers of this State; but they have had time to assume a very different appearance and tone to what they held some years back, and which the journals of some of the border States still retain. In North Carolina, there is a marked paucity of daily papers, the majority being weekly, and some even monthly. Among the latter is the *Charlotte Land We Love*, but whether it is a political paper or not, the "Directory" does not inform us. At Greensborough is a fortnightly *Message*, and at Plymouth a *Roanoke Cresset*, and at Salisbury an *Old North State*. Pass we next to Ohio, in which State, at the town of Berlin Heights, we find the *Principle*, described as "spiritualist,"

and at Cincinnati the *Coloured Citizen*. In the same city a Saturday paper bears the strange and unexplained title, *Our Days in Blue*. The title of a fortnightly paper in the same place, the *Free Nation*, is more intelligible. But what is its fellow town paper the *Railroader*? A weekly paper at Dayton, with a circulation of ten thousand, is called the *Religious Telescope*—a rather remarkable optical instrument. We have had *Hawk Eyes* in other parts of the Union, but at New Lisbon, in Ohio, we have the *Buck-Eye State*. At Norwalk there is an *Experiment*, with the ominous addition, "No report." At Orville a *Ventilator*, and at Paulding the euphonious title the *Rural Otktoan*. As a set-off to this last, we have the pretty *Ladies' Garland* of Pomeroy; but the effect is spoiled by a *Christian Radical* at Springfield, with a Reverend Daniel Shindler for its editor. West Union has a *Scion* and a *People's Defender*; and Wilmington has an *Aid to Progress*. Oregon contributes nothing to our string of titles, so we pass on to the Quaker State of Pennsylvania.

We find a paper at Beaver calling itself with characteristic simplicity the *Local*; with a fierce competitor the *Radical*. Chambersburg has a shadowy *Valley Spirit*, and a substantial *Country Merchant*; and Clearfield possesses a *Raftsmen's Journal*, and Condersport a *Potter Journal*, while a Republican paper at Lancaster rejoices in the name of *Father Abraham*. At La Porte there is a Republican *Pop Gun*. The queerest title in the city of Philadelphia is that owned by a Sunday paper, the *Sharp-Shooter and Anti-Fogey*. There are also the *City Item*, the *White Banner* (spiritualist), the *Busy Bee* (Lutheran), the *Camp News* (unexplained), the *Guardian Angel* (Catholic), and a *Little Pilgrim*, edited by Grace Greenwood. We find a *rara avis* in an *Independent Phoenix*—a Phoenix in independent circumstances would be astounding, and puzzled us till we found it was published at a village called Phoenixville. We feel quite at home at Reading with a *Banner of Berks*, but the *Long Roll* of Titusville would puzzle that astute character known as a "Philadelphia lawyer," but for the friendly explanation that it is devoted to the interests of soldiers' orphans; so may its roll become longer in so good a cause. At Union Town is the *Genius of Liberty*, a style of title which we generally doubt; and at Wellsborough, a *Jinga County Agitator*, which admits of no doubt. A *Record of the Times* at Wilkes Barre, closes our gleanings in Pennsylvania. At Greenwich, in Rhode Island, we find a *Pendulum* keeping the time o'-day. Desolated South Carolina only numbers forty-five journals—temperance, religious, literary, and political, all told—and presents no title of note. Tennessee seems in better sort, for it has a *Jolly Tennessean* at Charlotte, though there is an *Avalanche* at Memphis, qualified by a *Banner of Peace*, a capital which is also blessed with a *Ladies' Pearl*, a *Grecian Bend*, and a *Southern Son* (temperance). At Philadelphia, a village with a population of 600 souls, we find an *Union Pilot*, and at Sweetwater, among a population of the same number, a *Forerunner*. Texas has some ambitious titles. The *Gladiator* challenges all comers to the small town of Anderson, and the *Ranchero* represents Brownsville in company with the *Sentinel*. At Jefferson there is a *Jimplente*, and an *Ultra Ku Klux* (queer folks at Jefferson, to judge by their papers!) a *Harrison Flag* at Marshall; but Marshall is in the county of Harrison, which accounts for the otherwise unaccountable title; a *Texas Ranger* at Navasota, and a *Vaguero* at St. Mary's. It is astonishing how the papers exist in Texas. The populations of the towns vary from 400 to 4,000. Each of the former has at least one paper, and for each thousand of the population, men, women, and children, and people who are blind, or can't read, add another newspaper. In fact, the farther we dip into this most interesting directory, the more we get puzzled. We find newspapers rather ostentatiously "claiming" a circulation of "300 to 400." True, it may be half the population of the town, but in such a town, surely everybody knows all the news without a public journal to proclaim it once a week—knows all the shops without an advertiser to direct them. We lived for years in a village of 500 people, and will be bound to say that if Mrs. Smith's baby fell off her chair, or Mr. Jones' dog had a pitched battle with Mrs. Brown's cat, it was known throughout our community in an hour or two—let alone an accident, birth, marriage, or death; why, a weekly paper would have been very flat to us. But we must forget "our village," and remember we are now in the State of Vermont. The population of Bradford in this State is 1,689; but it sets up a *National Opinion* of its

own; while Battleboro' is content with a *Household*. "Hyde Park" is described as "a town on the road from Troy"—historically speaking, they ought to be thousands of years apart—and with a population of 1,400, it has its *Lamville News Dealer*. At Newbury, in this State, is the *Aurora of the Valley*; at Richmond, the *Frontier Sentinel*; and at St. Johnsbury, the *Caledonian*.

We now enter Virginia, which, however, presents few eccentricities. There is a *Spirit of Jefferson* at Charlestown, a *South West* at Christiansburg, an *Old Commonwealth* at Harrisonburg, a *New Nation* at Richmond, and a *Native Virginian* at Orange Court House, a small place, with a population of 800 souls.

In West Virginia we find a *Millennial Harbinger* at a place called Bethany, and a *Pan Handie News* at Wellsburg. But for a merry life, commend us to the cheerful sounding Holliday's Cove, where the only paper is a comic one,—the *Little Joker*.

The last State is Wisconsin; and here, at Black River Falls, we find the *Badger State Runner*; at Milwaukee, the *Sea Bote*, a daily and weekly journal; at Oconomowoc, the *Badger*; at Oconto, the *Lumberman*; at Stevens's point, the *Wisconsin Pinery*; and at Waupun, the *Prison City Leader*.

We feel almost afraid to speak of Silver City, in the territory of Idaho, and should decidedly decline living in such a doubly-hazardous sort of place; for it has two papers with the alarming titles of the *Tidal Wave* and the *Owyhee Avalanche*. H. C.

THE FAMOUS CORRESPONDENT.

(From the *Globe*.)

THE writer of an article in the current number of the *Saturday Review* has taken the trouble to dissect the account given by the celebrated Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* in the columns of that paper of the recent imperial fêtes at St. Cloud. The narration is marked by all the leading peculiarities, not excepting invention, common to the productions of that great writer, who, on this occasion, not content with describing the mundane glories of the scene, must needs thrust an impossible moon on the landscape. On July 9th, the almanac tells us that there was a new moon, and on the night of the 8th the famous correspondent informs us that "a large calm-looking moon" shone on the Emperor's guests. No midnight scene is considered by the Paris correspondent to be complete without a moon, and if there is not one, there ought to be; and, besides, the mention of her gives an opportunity for such remarks as, "Poor thing, she has always to sit up at night, to sit up many nights in the month, like an orderly officer." What King Charles I. was to Mr. Dick, so is the moon to the celebrated correspondent; he cannot keep it out of his letters, in season and out of season it is made to shine. In his account of the riot which occurred in Paris on the 10th of June, just a month prior to the events referred to above, he makes the same groundless assertion of the moon's presence. According to the almanac on that day there was a new moon, but in lofty defiance of the fact he says:—"Advancing in columns, equalised so as to fit them into the Boulevard, came on the Municipal Guard. It is a splendid corps, and indeed a prettier sight than their advance I have not seen for many a long day. The night was splendid, and the majestic mass of men produced a great effect in the moonlight."

SENSATIONAL JOURNALISM.

(From the *Pall Mall Gazette*.)

THE report of the inquiry into the deaths of the wretched family at Smithfield, a few days since, is most dismal reading; but its significance is not likely to be increased by sensational newspapers, for which it has already served as a welcome text. The result of that sort of treatment is, indeed, only to make one sorry and ashamed a second time. Such revelations as this "Smithfield tragedy" are shocking, but they are scarcely less shocking than the way in which they are immediately seized upon by sensational liners as a means of earning an honest crust. To these gentlemen a colliery explosion, a shipwreck, a death from starvation, a Smithfield tragedy, is "a chance for an article;" and there are certain professors of the art of leader writing who train themselves to weep and rave over such disasters as a regular

line of business. It is their way of earning a living—just as robbing graves was once a means of existence with an equally honourable order of men. The modern means of the resurrectionist—the body-snatchers of our own refined times—do not permit them to seize and sell the dead, and, perhaps, they do not like to do so; but they have no hesitation about making "subjects" of the drowned, starved, and murdered in another sense. They cry over the body and sell their tears. They indite sobbing paragraphs, wrought to a proper hysterical pitch by some appropriate stimulant, and go gaily with their goods to any editor who will pay them for the job. When no dead body offers fair occasion for work, these gentlemen will weep over a poor man's marigold in the poor man's garden-pot; or wail over a consumptive prostitute; fall to any subject, in short, which will turn on the tap of their tears, or make occasion for the use of pathetic indignation, the fountain of which is hot, with sugar. To our own mind, no profession can be more odious or contemptible than that of the literary resurrection-man. The beggar who foams at the mouth with soap when he simulates a fit is not more of an impostor; and the halfpence he wriggles out of people's pockets as he wallows on the ground are not more disgracefully earned than the wages of this sort of sensational writing.

THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE PRESS.

(From the *Cosmopolitan*.)

THE Press has its rights, but also its duties. Its rights are limited; its duties are unlimited. It has the right to publish the truth when the publication of the truth will conduce to the public welfare. It is equally the duty of the Press to withhold facts, the publication of which would lead to public detriment and disorder. . . . The Press has the right and the duty to speak plainly and fearlessly in the exposure of shams and hypocrisies of all descriptions. The only question is, can a truly independent Press speak the truth and live! Nothing is easier than to make money in journalism. It is "as easy as lying." Not only individuals, but Governments will pay us liberally to publish falsehoods; but who will reward us for speaking the truth? Why, it is almost as much as one's life is worth here in London to expose a rotten finance company; and when a journalist ventures to prick one of the great social or religious bubbles of the day, he must be prepared to accept his own martyrdom.

THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF THE PRESS IN SCOTLAND.

FROM a recent number of the *Scotsman*, we extract the following history of Scottish journalism:—

The first newspaper in Scotland was printed—at Leith, it is supposed—on the 5th August, 1651. This was the "*Mercurius Scoticus*," or a true character of affairs in England, Ireland, and Scotland,—and other foreign parts, collected for publique satisfaction." It was published weekly, and contained eight small pages of print. Apparently the *Mercury* did not pay, for next year it was superseded by a reprint of a London newspaper, entitled, "A Diurnal of some passages and affairs." One year marked the period of the existence of this second publication; and then appeared the "*Mercurius Politicus*," comprising the sum of intelligence with the affairs and designs now on foot in the three nations of England, Ireland, and Scotland, in defence of the commonwealth, and for information of the people. *Ita vertere scria*. Printed at London, and reprinted at Leith." An edition of this paper began to be printed at Edinburgh in 1655, and that was the first newspaper published in the city. Five years afterwards the paper was declared to be "published by order of Parliament," and was then printed by Christopher Higgins, in Hart's Close, opposite the Tron Church. In 1661, Mr. Thomas Sydeserf, son of the Bishop of Orkney, began the publication in Edinburgh of the "*Mercurius Caledonius*," comprising the affairs now in agitation in Scotland, with a survey of foreign intelligence." This also was a weekly journal; but it ceased to appear at the end of three months. Notwithstanding the evil fortune that seemed to wait on the projectors of newspapers thus far, the attempt to establish a paper in Scotland was not abandoned. The *Mercurius Caledonius* was suc-

ceeded by "*The Kingdoms Intelligencer*, of the affairs now in agitation in Scotland, England, and Ireland; together with foreign intelligence. To prevent false news. Published by authority." This journal enjoyed a longer existence than all its predecessors united. The *Edinburgh Gazette*, an official paper, published by authority, was established in 1699 by James Watson; and a few years later the *Scots Postman*, a thrice-a-week journal, was started.

In the west of Scotland, the first newspaper published was the *Glasgow Courant*, which was started in November, 1715. It issued from the printing-office in the College. There was no stamp duty at the time the *Courant* began its career, and the price of the paper was exceedingly low, being to subscribers one penny per copy, and to non-subscribers three-halfpence. This pioneer journal of the west did not survive beyond a few years. Prior to 1813, thirteen distinct newspapers had been set going in Glasgow, but by that year eight had ceased to exist. Among the extinct journals were two bearing the patriotic titles of the *Caledonian* and the *Scotchman*. The *Journal* was started in 1729. The *Herald*, which has been the most successful of the Glasgow newspapers, was begun in 1783, and up till 1803 bore the title of *Advertiser*. In 1815, when the *Herald* was published twice a-week, the circulation was about 1,100 copies. The price was 7d.—8d. for the paper, and 4d. of duty. It was set down as a wonderful thing that the edition of the paper containing an official announcement of the Battle of Waterloo attained a sale of 2,122 copies. The number of copies of newspapers of all kinds printed in Glasgow in 1815 was 373,718.

The progress of the newspaper Press subsequent to the abolition of the stamp, paper, and advertisement duties have been very great. In 1851 there were in existence in the United Kingdom 568 journals, classified as follows:—Liberal, 281; Conservative, 174; neutral and class papers, 158. In 1868 the number of journals had increased to 1,324, of which 85 were published daily. The newspapers were distributed thus:—In England and Wales, 1,133; in Scotland, 182; in Ireland, 124; and in the British Isles, 15. Eleven daily papers were published in Scotland. Of these, Edinburgh had 3; Glasgow, 4; and Dundee and Greenock, 2 each. Of the 132 newspapers in Scotland, only five were in existence at the beginning of this century, and 75 of them have been started since the year 1850. Of the extinct newspapers which were at one time prominent may be mentioned the *Edinburgh Advertiser*—established in 1764 by Mr. James Donaldson, who accumulated a large fortune in the printing and publishing business; and when he died, in 1830, left £200,000 for the endowment of an hospital, which is one of the chief ornaments of Edinburgh. The publication of the paper ceased eight or nine years ago. The *Edinburgh Weekly Journal*, which expired about 20 years ago, had a thriving existence for many years. The oldest existing paper is the *Edinburgh Gazette*, which was started, as above stated, in 1699. Next in order comes the *Evening Courant*, the publication of which was sanctioned by the Town Council of Edinburgh in 1718. Two newspapers bearing the name *Courant* had previously been issued, but they had but a brief existence. In 1720 the *Caledonian Mercury* (now incorporated with the *Scotsman*) was started. The *Aberdeen Journal* dates from 1748; the *Kelso Mail* from 1797; and the *Greenock Advertiser* from 1799. The Scotch newspapers are well dispersed over the country, from Kirkwall to Kirkcudbright, and there are only two or three counties in which a journal of some kind is not published. A few of the old-established county papers have enjoyed for many years a run of uninterrupted prosperity; but some of the smaller fry have had a somewhat chequered career. Of the papers now published, five only were in existence fifty years ago, and the first daily paper was issued so recently as 1847. The *Scotsman* was established in 1847, and became a daily paper in 1855.

A CONTROVERSY which has for some time occupied the members of the Newspaper Press Fund is to be decided at the annual meeting on the 31st inst. Hitherto the qualification for membership has been based on a literary standard; and while a casual reporter could become a member, proprietors and managers of mechanical and trade departments could not. It is now proposed to admit proprietors and managers.

Correspondence.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM AND THE NEWSPAPERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—I have received a notice from the trustees of the British Museum to send copies of my papers it future to Mr. Lethbridge, as their agent, in lieu of the copies I was formerly required to send to Somerset House, from whence the Museum collection was supplied.

I always received payment from Somerset House for the copies sent, but understand that under the new system no payment will be made. It is a matter of small pecuniary interest to proprietors, but as, under the system of purchase, the files of newspapers at the Museum were always wretchedly deficient and incomplete, is the gratuitous system likely to ensure even the limited amount of completeness that had been previously attained?

Fully recognising the importance of a great national collection of newspapers, and the still greater importance of it being as complete and perfect as possible, and quite desirous of complying on my own part with the request, as doing the most I can towards that purpose, I would be glad if Mr. Lethbridge or the Museum authorities would, through your columns, make it known to the general body of proprietors that they have, as I believe, some power of enforcing a general compliance with their request.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

THE PROPRIETOR OF FIVE JOURNALS.

THE *Morning Star* has found it necessary to contradict a report that it is about to be incorporated with one of its contemporaries. It is true, however, that certain changes have been made in the proprietary. Mr. John Morley has, it is said, assumed the editorship.

NEWSPAPER STAMPS.—INTENDED CHANGES.—The *Irish Times* is enabled to state that important changes will be made early next session in reference to the stamps of newspapers and their transmission through the medium of the Post-Office. The stamp, whether impressed or affixed, will be reduced from one penny to a halfpenny, and the latter sum will suffice for any weight. A newspaper, suppose, with a double supplement, the stamp on which now costs three-halfpence, will then be carried for a single halfpenny. The stamp may be either impressed or adhesive, and the latter will be obtainable at all places where newspapers are sold. The stamp, however, will be obliterated on the transmission of any newspaper once through the Post Office. At present, for the penny stamp, a newspaper may be transmitted several times through the Post Office within fifteen days of the day of publication. Next year a stamp will be required for each separate despatch through the post. It is expected that this change will partly compensate for the loss of revenue caused by the reduction of the charge. The existing rule which prohibits the delivery of newspapers bearing an impressed stamp within the limits of the town in which it is published will be abrogated.

YORKSHIRE NEWSPAPER SOCIETY.—The members of this Society, which embraces seventeen of the principal newspapers published in Yorkshire, held their annual meeting on the 5th of June, at the Victoria Hotel, Bradford, under the presidency of Mr. Byles, of the *Bradford Observer*. There was a good attendance of members, and Mr. Henderson, of the *Belfast News Letter*, was also present as a guest. The various subjects which were brought under discussion at the recent meeting of the Provincial Newspaper Society, at the Crystal Palace, were again talked over, and a resolution was passed, approving of the proposal to reduce the newspaper postage rate from 1d. to ½d. The members afterwards dined together, and decided on holding next year's meeting at Halifax. Mr. J. L. Foster, of the *Yorkshire Gazette*, was unanimously re-elected treasurer and secretary for the ensuing year.

BEATING LONDON FIRE REPORTERS.—A Down East newspaper, describing a recent fire, says:—"About this instant of time the rear-wall of the back edifice came down dash, with a stunning crash, which shook 'all Nater' in the neighbourhood, and the fire-fleed, grinning with malignant glee, kicked his heels about the rear portion of the stores and clerks' offices adjoining the deflagrating structures."

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, July 26.

A feeling of disappointment pervades the Press at the wretched result of the hoped-for "change of system," so pompously put forth by the Imperial Decree of the 12th inst., but which, after all, turns out to be a case of *parturiunt montes, nascitur ridiculus mus*. At first it was generally hoped that the "change of system" would be a tangible one, and include a more liberal treatment of the public Press; but these expectations have by degrees dwindled away, and nothing can be discovered to warrant such a delusion. In the meantime it is satisfactory to be able to record that there have been no fresh prosecutions of the Press; indeed, during this interregnum everything appears to be left *in statu quo*, and the Courts of Justice in vacation. The following, therefore, must be understood to relate to the period anterior to the 12th inst., and subsequently to the date of my last monthly letter.

One of the great peculiarities of the French Press law is the responsibility imposed on the printers and the importance attached to that class of tradesmen, who are placed at a great disadvantage; for whereas no legal enactment can prevent an editor from writing down his ideas and opinions, the law can step in and prevent the presses from being worked. It is physically impossible for a printer who has to strike off the whole editions of perhaps half-a-dozen different newspapers in the course of a few hours in the afternoon to read their contents, and therefore he has no means of evading the responsibility, but must take his chance and run the risk; besides, such a course would give him the power of unlimited censorship, for which he is neither fitted by his education nor political knowledge. To make a person responsible for what does not depend on his own volition, is no doubt a great injustice, but that the law does not care for, and only looks to its fulfilment according to the strict letter. It was only the other day that a Madame Chaleat, the possessor of a licensed printing office, was punished for not refusing the use of her presses to her own husband, who is a journalist; and the case of M. Schiller is one of great hardship. The Court first fines him 1,000*fr.* and sentences him to two months' imprisonment for printing the *Rappel*; and when he declines having anything more to do with that journal, the proprietor enters legal proceedings against him, and the Court fines him another 1,000*fr.* for not printing the *Rappel*! Surely this is an anomaly that does but little credit to a country that is continually piqueing itself on being at the head of civilisation.

M. Lucien Dubois, editor of the *Paris Correspondence Générale*, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 500*fr.*, on the old and threadbare charge of circulating false intelligence and inciting to hatred and despising of the Government.

The lawyers of Cambrai have petitioned the Government, through the Minister of Justice, in favour of M. Quentin, editor of the *Réveil*, now in prison in the Mazas on the serious charge of plotting against the safety of the State (he being also a member of the bar of that Archbishopric city), but hitherto fruitlessly.

M. Jourdan, editor of the *Siccle*, is condemned to two months' imprisonment and a fine of 500*fr.*, Voissenel, the printer, to one month and 500*fr.* fine, and Husson the *Gérant* to 150*fr.* fine.

The *Eclaireur* of St. Etienne is now under prosecution for the twentieth time.

M. Rochefort has been sentenced *in contumaciam* to three years' imprisonment, a fine of 10,000*fr.*, and loss of his civil rights for having sent 2,500 copies of his *Lanterne* for free distribution in France. M. Myarle, one of his accomplices is condemned to a year's imprisonment, and M. Cornebois, the other one, to six months'. It is said that in consequence of the severity of the sentence, M. de Rochefort has taken it so much to heart, that he has lost his reason. Whether there is any truth in the rumour I am unable to say, as M. de Rochefort is at Brussels, and therefore give the report for what it is worth.

M. Masure, chief editor and *gérant* of the *Progrès du Nord* of Lille, has to suffer two months' imprisonment and pay a fine of 200*fr.*; and the *Avant-garde de Lyon*, a non-political journal, is condemned to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 500*fr.*, for publishing articles relating to politics.

An Imperial decree of the 18th inst., places the administration of the *Journal Officiel* and the *Moniteur des Communes* under the Department of the Minister of the Interior.

With reference to the Emperor's late speech at the Camp of Chalons, in which he told the soldiers that the wars of France were the History of Civilisation, the *Diable-à-Quatre* publishes the following logical deduction: "War is civilisation and civilisation is war; but as the 'Empire is Peace,' the Empire is not Civilisation."

AVANT COURIER.

According to the *Rappel*, within the 24 days ending July 5th, 25 papers, with their editors, printers, &c., have been sentenced collectively to 73 months of imprisonment and 42,170*fr.* fine!

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, July 26.

The long pending dispute between the proprietors of the *Hamburger Nachrichten* of this city, has at length been happily terminated by the appointment of a Court of Arbitration, at the head of which is Senator Petersen, the Chief Magistrate of the Police Court.

The proprietor of the *Freischütz*, of this city, has been agreeably surprised by the receipt of an official despatch from the minister at Schwerin, informing him that the prohibition against the circulation of the above-named journal in the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg has been rescinded, after being in force for 14 years, and that due notice of the fact has been given in the Official Gazette.

In the prosecution of Planton and Richter (the latter as editor of the *Reform* of this city) for the publication of a libellous advertisement in that paper, casting the imputation of dishonesty on a civil functionary of the State, a verdict was given by the *Niedergericht*, or inferior court, in favour of the plaintiff, and Planton, as the writer of the incriminating advertisement, was sentenced to pay a compensation of a hundred marks currency and costs. Richter was found guilty of not keeping a better control over the advertisements in the paper of which he is also the proprietor, which in this case led to the belief of his complicity, as from the many underlined expressions in the manuscript the criminality of the contents could not entirely have escaped his attention with the exercise of but moderate caution. He was therefore compelled to pay 30 marks damages and costs, together with the obligation to publish the sentence of the court, at full length, in one of the next impressions of his journal.

The proprietorship of the well-known Berlin paper called the *Spenerische Zeitung*, founded more than a hundred years ago by a publisher named Spener, who enjoyed the favour of Frederick the Great, and obtained from him the concession with the privilege of embodying the royal coat of arms in the vignette of the title-page, has just passed into the possession of a Lieutenant of Cuirassiers named von Heuser, that gallant officer having lately married the granddaughter and heiress of Dr. Spiker, the former proprietor. But by the last will of the said doctor she will have to share the revenues derived from the paper with her brother, now a minor, when he comes of age.

A dramatic representation, performed exclusively by Berlin journalists, in aid of the charitable fund of the *Berliner Presse*, the club of journalists in that city, after deducting 300 dols. for hire of the theatre where the entertainment took place, produced the net amount of 811 dols.

The well-known publishing firm of Friedrich Fleischer, at Leipzig, has celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his business, which was founded by his father in 1788, and to which he succeeded under his own name in 1819.

A Press prosecution at Berlin has made a great sensation there. Herr A. Brockhoff and C. Samuel, joint editors of the *Berliner Börsen Zeitung*, were indicted for libel by Baron Senft-Pilsach in his capacity as member of the Upper House of Parliament. The incriminating article is a humorous report of a speech made in Parliament by the Baron on the subject of laying embargo on the property of the dethroned German potentates. The Court could not admit that the article contained a libel, but only an offensive insult, and sentenced Brockhoff as the writer of it to a month's imprisonment, and Samuel, the responsible editor, to a fine of 20 dols. for not reading the article before it was printed.

The Press deputation of the same Court has sentenced Herr

Franz Duncker, one of the members for Berlin in the North German Parliament, in his capacity as proprietor of the *Volks Zeitung*, to pay a fine of 75 dols. for refusing to give up the name of the writer of an offensive article when called upon by the authorities to do so. The State Procurator demanded a fine of 500 dols. and loss of concession to carry on the trade of publisher and printer, but the Court greatly modified the sentence. The subject related to certain articles published as far back as 1866, for which the former editor, F. Grunert, had already been fined 70 dols.

Panstenographicon is the title of a new quarterly journal embodying, as the name implies, the stenographic systems of all nations, published at Dresden and edited by Dr. Zeibig and Professor Krieg by order of the Saxon Minister of the Interior. The first number contains eighteen autographic plates showing various systems in use in different countries, as well as a representation of the Greek Tachygraphy by Dr. Schmitz, and the Roman ditto by Dr. Lehmann, as well as notices of the English stenographic system of Bright and Bales, Ratcliff, and John Willes, and also specimens of the first beginnings of the art in Germany by Schwenker and Professor Harsdorffer.

The two learned travellers, A. Bastian and R. Hartmann, have combined to publish a periodical at Berlin under the title of *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie*. It will appear every other month, commencing on the 1st prox., and be published by Wigandt and Hempel of Berlin.

A new scientific periodical has been launched at Jena, published by Mauke of that University, and edited by Dr. Hallier and Professor Zurn. It is called the *Zeitschrift für Parasitenkunde*, and its object is to record the discoveries and progress made in that branch of science.

The *Neue Posensche Zeitung* of Posen has been discontinued. S.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, July 25.

I feel great satisfaction at being able to commence this letter with the important announcement that Trial by Jury is a *fait accompli* throughout the whole of the extensive dominions and provinces of Austria and Hungary. Since the Law was published some months ago, there has been plenty of time to organise the machinery, and now that it has been set in motion, the 18th of July, 1869, will for evermore form not only the brightest era in the annals of the Press in this country, but one of the fairest pages of its history. The first trial that inaugurated the new system was that of the *Debatte*, on the charge of libel preferred by the Municipal Corporation of this metropolis, who were accused of nepotism and corruption. For the defence, it was asserted that the article in question was not only not written by the editor Don von Stoffella, but that he had not even seen it till it was published, and this admission constituted the second charge against him, namely, wilful neglect of his editorial duties. As the first count could not be proved, the jury found the defendant guilty of the second, and the sentence of the court was a fine of 50fl. or imprisonment for ten days for the editor, as well as a 100fl. loss of the caution-money deposited by the *Debatte*.

The second case was an action brought by Herr Paul Schiff, a well known banker of this city, against A. Scharf and Julius Michalek, joint editors of the *Sonntag und Montags Zeitung*, for libel contained in an article superscribed "The Pirate Ship,"—"Schiff," in German signifying "ship,"—accusing him of nefarious dealings on the Stock Exchange, to influence the prices of certain shares for his own private advantage and profit. The offence was fully proved and the defendants were mulcted in a fine of 200fl. and five months' imprisonment.

But not only in the capital has the new system been inaugurated, but also in the provinces; and the first trial at Linz on the Danube has become quite a *cause célèbre*, in which the bishop of the diocese is implicated, and the case will probably lead to an unpleasant collision between the Austrian Court and the Sovereign Pontiff, both on political and religious grounds. The Bishop Rudiger of Linz was accused of having written and printed in an ultramontane journal a pastoral letter inciting his flock to rebellion against the laws of the country, and disobedience to the constituted authorities. There were nine different counts in the

indictment, though they were not all proved, his eminence was found guilty of some of them, and condemned to a fortnight's imprisonment. How the Emperor pardoned him, how the Bishop would not accept the Imperial clemency, but insisted on being sent to prison for conscience's sake, and how the case has unpleasantly tended to widen the breach between the Courts of Vienna and Rome, are subjects that I am not called on to dilate on in this letter, nor are they suited for discussion in the columns of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*, and I should not have mentioned the affair in this place but for its connection with the introduction of trial by jury of Press offences in Austria.

It is needless to remark that the new institution has been most warmly greeted and welcomed by the public Press of all political shades and opinions. In an editorial article, superscribed "Jury and Press," the *Neue Freie Presse* makes the following pertinent observations: "As long as the independent Press had to battle with absolute power, we were obliged to have recourse to stratagems for speaking freely, and endeavour to overreach the authorities by circumventing the law. We now enjoy liberty of the Press and the highest guarantee for its maintenance in trial by jury. To continue under these altered circumstances, our former tactics of denying all knowledge of an incriminating article, and refusing to confess and defend what we have written, is unworthy of us, as it lowers the dignity of the Press and its representatives. What an unfavourable impression must be made on the public mind in reading the proceedings of a trial in which a responsible editor makes use of the threadbare and flimsy excuse of not having read the incriminating article on which the prosecution is founded! What respect can the world have for a public organ, whose managers one and all deny all knowledge of the article and are such arrant hypocrites as to feign the most perfect ignorance of the writer! With all due honour to the anonymous character of editorial articles—for it cannot be denied that it possesses unspeakable advantages—the responsible editor must have some compensation for this anonymity, which would otherwise be legally untenable; for he has undertaken his duties in exchange for the privilege accorded to newspapers of forming an exception to the general principles of liability. If we wish to preserve our anonymous character and not provoke obligatory evidence, or forcing the name of the writer to be given up, we must confirm and keep up the responsibility of the editor, and no longer shelter ourselves under cowardly subterfuges, but boldly proclaim our readiness to come forward and answer any charges or complaints that may be preferred against us. We now enjoy that great desideratum for which we have so long been agitating,—the liberty of the Press and trial by jury. Let us then no longer try to evade our duties or shake off our responsibility; for retracting what we have once said is sacrificing [the power of the Press and making us unworthy of the freedom we have at length happily obtained." TEUTON.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, July 26.

Fäderneslandet, the chief organ of the unbridled Press, and popularly known here as the *Scandal-tidning*, has got into serious trouble, firstly by becoming the subject of a whole series of Press prosecutions, and secondly by falling very low in the estimation of its most zealous supporters by needlessly and gratuitously attacking its own contemporaries for their conduct at the late Congress of Journalists at Gothenborg. The first prosecution ended by the conviction of Dalhammer, the responsible editor, for high treason and offence of majesty, and sentencing him to two years' imprisonment with hard labour. It is true he is personally innocent of the crime imputed to him, being a simple uneducated labourer, born in 1813 of unknown parents at Wetterås; in 1842 he came to Stockholm and learned the trade of mason, supporting himself by the honest wages of his calling till 1860, when he preferred to eat the bread of idleness and be paid for doing nothing but lending his name to the above-named paper as its "responsible editor." But though innocent of the charge brought against him, he finds no sympathy with the public; on the contrary a general feeling of satisfaction prevails among the better classes, who support order and respect the laws, in the hope that all fictitious responsible editors may be similarly treated, in order to put down this crying abuse. The real editor appears to have

fully anticipated the result of the trial; for while it was still pending he complained bitterly in an editorial article of the illegality of the proceedings and the great injustice done to him by the composition of the jury, none but Government *employés* being appointed to serve on it. I may here remark that as, in consequence of the rushing flow of gold from California and Australia during the last ten years, the value of the currency in this country has become much depressed, accompanied by a corresponding rise in the prices of all articles of food and other necessities of life, the position of Government functionaries has met with much sympathy, receiving as they do fixed salaries which were framed at a time when everything was much cheaper, they had great difficulties to contend with; and an increase of their salaries was effected, so that with economy they are now able to live respectably and make both ends meet. *Fäderneslandet* and birds of the same feathers are always reproaching the meritorious class of public servants with their servility, and being paid much more than their services deserve, asserting that they live by favouritism and protection, and denying the devaluation of money and the rise in the value of provisions. It must, however, be confessed that there is some foundation for the complaint made of their not being overworked, as many of them get through their daily duties in two or three hours, and several of the highest paid are superfluous and their service might be dispensed with and their duties joined to others. But on the other hand it is but fair to add, that the most hard working officials are still greatly underpaid, and have to practise the most rigid economy to support themselves and their families in a manner becoming their station in life. Be that as it may, *Fäderneslandet* asserts that the conviction ensued not by the merits of the case but through the rancune and hostility of the officials on the jury; consoling itself, however, by the comfortable reflexion that on appeal to the Superior Court the sentence cannot fail to be reversed, and regretting only that the responsible editor will have to suffer imprisonment till then, as the offer of bail made by the proprietor was refused by the Court, and he was immediately arrested and sent to prison. There is, however, no foundation for entertaining this hope, and it is clear he will have to remain for the full term of his sentence in the common jail, surrounded by the worst specimens of degraded humanity; so that the proprietor will have to look out for another "responsible editor," willing to run the same risk on payment of a regular salary. Such is the present state of the law, that the real editor puts forward a scapegoat and shelters himself behind it, running no risk himself, as it is all only a question of money. Much more difficult will it be to rehabilitate the character and reputation of the paper in the estimation of the subscribers after so injudiciously attacking the congress of journalists and ridiculing their earnest and energetic protest against this present system of responsibility, at the same time lauding those journals that did not attend the meeting. The special object of *Fäderneslandet's* malicious attack is Mr. L. H. Hyerta, the chairman of the Congress, who is accused of having made use of the system to shield himself from the rigour of the law when he was proprietor of the *Aftonbladet*; but it took a different turn from what was expected, for though it is not usual to reply to invectives and attacks of the Press, Mr. Hyerta in this instance made an exception to the general rule and defended himself with such vigorous language and forcible arguments that *Fäderneslandet* had not a leg to stand on, and was forced to shut up his barking and be silent. The veteran journalist, whose name is so meritoriously connected with Swedish literature, quietly admits the truth of the assertion, but explains that since 1830 the times are changed and public opinion is very different from what it was forty years ago. At that period the King enjoyed the prerogative of suppressing a newspaper at his sole will and pleasure, which act entailed on its editor incapacity for ever after from editing a journal or becoming responsible for its contents. It was under these circumstances that after his brother and his cashier had been both treated in this manner, he was obliged to engage another person; but that person required to read each impression before publication, and it never appeared till after it had obtained that person's consent. But when King Oscar, on ascending the throne in 1844, voluntarily resigned this prerogative of the crown, he himself (Mr. Hyerta) again undertook the responsibility of his duties; and he maintained he had

not gone too far in affirming his conviction at the Gothenborg Congress, and now repeating it in print, that under the present system a responsible editor was only another name for a shameless criminal. The provincial journal, *Nerikes Allehanda*, of Gothenborg, in giving at the time a list of the journalists present at the Congress, proved that by far the great majority of the respectable papers of this metropolis were represented, and mentioned specially that only two obscure journals—the *Stockholms Posten* and the *Wäktaren*, failed to send representatives to the meeting. NORD.

BAVARIA.

On the proposition of the Central Royal Commission at Munich, the Minister for Commerce has ordered the publication of a statistical periodical commencing on the 1st of October next. It is to be called the *Zeitschrift des Königlichen Statistischen Bureau's*, and will be edited by the President of the Bavarian Statistical Department.

WURTEMBERG.

The notorious Carl Mayer, editor of the *Stuttgarter Beobachter*, has been again convicted of a libel on Count von Bismarck, and sentenced to another six weeks' imprisonment in a fortress, and to pay a fine of 100fl.

BADEN.

Some time ago the *Freie Stimme*, an ultramontane organ, published at Carlsruhe, and much circulated in the Grand Duchy of Baden, published a letter purporting to be written by a recruit, in which he complains of the inhuman manner in which the Baden soldiers are "exercised in Prussian temperance," having to appease the cravings of hunger on an allowance of six kreutzers (2d.) per day; and further, that they were made to fill their knapsacks with 15lbs. of sand when at field exercise, which was gradually to be increased to 30lbs. This letter was reproduced in another clerical paper, the *Badischer Beobachter*, and also in the *Neubadische Landeszeitung*. A prosecution was commenced by the State Procurator against all the three papers. The trial came on before the District Court at Carlsruhe, on the 10th inst., when they were all convicted of circulating false and malicious reports against the Government institutions; the editor of the *Freie Stimme* being condemned to eight weeks' imprisonment, and a fine of 50fl., and the editors of the two others to five weeks' imprisonment and a fine of 25fl. each, as well as payment of costs.

RUSSIA.

The *Moscow Zeitung* complains bitterly of the brilliant prospects that open to Lievland emigrants that settle in Prussia, and asserting that Professor Schirren, of Riga, had been made chief editor of a government organ at Berlin, and was generally looked on as a protégé of Count Bismarck; and also that the well-known writer, Dr. Eckhardt, had been appointed to be Prussian Consul in Galicia. There is, however, no truth in this malicious report, for both the above-named learned gentlemen are living in Germany in private, and, moreover, outside the frontiers of Prussia; the former as professor at a South German University, and the latter as editor of the *Grenzboten*, a periodical published at Leipzig.

DENMARK.

A popular meeting was held on the 5th inst. at Hillerød, near Copenhagen, and attended by above a thousand Swedes and as many Danes. The object was a political demonstration in favour of the most intimate alliance between the two kingdoms, the better to resist the encroachments of Russia on one side, and Prussia on the other. The representatives of the Press took a great part in the proceedings, powerful speeches being made by Herr Rimstead, editor of the *Dagstelegrafer*, Willemaes, editor of the *Flensburger Anzeiger*, Carl Ploug, editor of the *Fadrelandet*, and Petersen, editor of the *Drontheim Avis*.

Dagens Nyheder asserts that the former Bishop Monrad, at one time Danish prime minister, but who subsequently threw up his Bishopric, and emigrated to Australia, whence he has lately returned to his native country, has been appointed one of the political contributors on the editorial staff of the official journal *Berlingske Tidende*.

ITALY.

A new monthly periodical devoted to science, and written in the Italian language, is now published at Asti, by D. Giovanni. It is called the *Annali de Scienzi*, and is edited by Dr. Wald, and the Cavaliere L. Ferrus. Each number forms a bulky volume of eight sheets octavo.

THE NETHERLANDS.

AMSTERDAM, July 26.

The bonds which hitherto held the Press enchained contrary to the spirit of the age, have at length been happily struck off, and the newspaper stamp, which formed such an insuperable obstacle to the free development of journalism in this country is now a thing of the past, and a matter of history. Although the alteration of the system only came into operation on the 1st inst., its effects are already plainly visible. The provincial Press, that was never of much importance, and could not be compared with that of many other countries, has been greatly improved either by becoming daily papers, or increasing their size and form, and a general reduction in price. The more important journals of this city, Rotterdam, and The Hague, are now enabled to compete successfully with her contemporaries in other countries. It is not very long since it was considered a slur on a man's character to be connected with the Press, and good writers were careful to preserve their anonymity. All this is now happily changed. Learned men and literary characters are no longer afraid of being publicly known as standing at the head of our first papers, and there is great competition to engage gentlemen of intellect and talent as contributors to the Press. It is worthy of notice that the agitation for the repeal of the newspaper stamp law was not commenced by those connected with the Press, but by people of education and independent status in society, which shows the value set upon it by public opinion. Ever since the last Literary Congress at Ghent, where Mynheer van Lee pleaded so powerfully in favour of the abolition of newspaper stamps, and described in such glowing terms the injustice, inexpediency, and immorality of retaining them any longer, the agitation then commenced has been making propaganda in this country with such marvellous rapidity and success that public opinion was literally taken by storm, and though the Press of course supported the movement, they took no great or prominent part in the discussion, with the laudable view to disarm the possible reproach of being actuated by interested motives. A committee was first formed at Rotterdam, and called itself the "*Anti-Dagbladzegel-verbond*;" but in a short time its ramifications extended over the whole kingdom, and there was not a town—and scarcely even a large village—but what could boast of a supporting sub-committee. Such unanimity of public opinion has, perhaps, never been witnessed in any country, and it is therefore no wonder that it was irresistible; indeed the only real, though but feeble opposition offered to the measure, proceeded from the Minister for Finance, who of course objected to the loss of so much revenue collected at no expense or risk, and with but little trouble.

VAN TROMP.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, July 16.

The great event of the Press world, since the date of my last letter, has been the death of Henry J. Raymond, editor of the *Times* of this city. Mr. Raymond had paid a visit to Greenwood Cemetery, a drive of some eight miles out and home, to arrange about a monument to his son who died a few months ago, and whose loss he undoubtedly took much to heart, and on his return he attended a political club of which he is a member, and which he left soon after eleven o'clock. At three in the morning his family were alarmed by unusual sounds which turned out to be the stertorous breathing of the poor gentleman, whom they found lying on the floor of the hall at his house in Ninth Street, just behind the door, where he had apparently dropped in a fit of apoplexy immediately after entering the house. Medical aid was at once called in, but to no effect; he never rallied, and died in about two hours, at the age of 49.

Mr. Raymond commenced his literary career on a salary of 80s. a week; but nearly twenty years ago—I think it was in 1851, Mr. Raymond started the *Times*, which, like its great namesake in London, has achieved its success by artfully adapting its tone

and opinions to the caprices of the public opinion. Nevertheless it was the most respectably conducted, I may say gentlemanly, of our daily papers.

Mr. Raymond was a member of the State Legislature and sat in Congress for three sessions. The funeral took place on the 21st ult. The Rev. Stephen Tyng read the funeral service of the Church of England, and Mr. Henry Ward Beecher delivered an address on the occasion. Mr. Horace Greeley, of the *Tribune*, and other well-known New York journalists, were among the mourners. Mr. Beecher, in his eulogium, said: "There is no place in the land which has so developed the daily Press as this; and among the agents of that development Mr. Raymond stands pre-eminent. It is most grateful in such a time as this to remark how singularly free his whole career has been from bitterness; how he refused to gain strength by the advocacy of passion; how he never used the malign passions, nor appealed to them in others; how reason and the higher moral sentiments breathed in his work. And now that he has departed, to look back upon his career, and see how he wielded the mighty engine in behalf of good-reason, in behalf of morality, covers a multitude of imperfections."

The *Round Table* (whose familiar name, by the way, you will hear no more, as it was amalgamated on the 10th inst. with the *New York Citizen*), in its number for the 20th of June, thus speaks of Mr. Raymond's death and character: "There was something awfully sudden about the catastrophe; the more so because the deceased was commonly regarded as one of those cautious, regular men who, whatever their natural physical resources, live not only well but long. When the thoughtless, careless livers for to-day, of whom our metropolitan Press has had unhappily so many examples, fall into untimely graves, there is regret but no surprise; but when in the pride of his strength and usefulness, hardly in middle age, with every apparent assurance that abstemious and methodical habits can give of a long earthly future, a man like Mr. Raymond dies, a certain universal shudder runs through the community; a shudder born of the momentous lesson that mortals cannot, even by foresight and self-restraint, govern their own destinies, which for the strong no less than the weak are at the mercy of a higher power. The daily Press, as we have hinted, has left little untold of the incidents of Mr. Raymond's life that the public would wish to hear; and there is nothing left for us to do save to add to others our tribute of respect to his memory and to express profound regret that we have not more editors like him. The judicial faculty which makes a man a bad partizan, makes a good editor, and it was this faculty, possessed by him in an eminent degree, which made Mr. Raymond so valuable as a journalist, and which now makes it appear so difficult to supply his loss. The Press has evinced a just appreciation of this as well as of his many other admirable qualities; and it is a melancholy pleasure to see that the little acerbities which at various times existed between Mr. Raymond and some of his contemporaries have been buried in the dead journalist's grave."

The *New York Citizen* thus announces its absorption of the *Round Table*:—"We have the satisfaction of announcing to our readers that we have purchased the *Round Table*, which will hereafter be merged in the *Citizen*. By this arrangement our readers will receive whatever there is of interest in that publication, while our advertisers will gain a largely-increased circulation. The striking features of both periodicals will be retained. There is nothing that will clash in the past career of either, and we shall endeavour hereafter to make the consolidated paper equal to both together. Both have heretofore maintained a high character in literature—possibly the *Citizen* has paid more pointed attention to local political questions; but in the main tenets of political faith both have agreed, and both have been earnest, honest, and independent in all matters coming under consideration. The effect of this change will be to very nearly double the circulation of the *Citizen*, while the reading matter will have additional attraction from the increased variety and wider range of the subjects treated. The literary reputation will be maintained, careful reviews of books will be furnished, while the political and sporting departments will be enlarged and perfected. Having a larger circulation we shall be enabled to engage in all departments the best attainable ability. We have secured the services of the editor of the *Round Table* to write and supervise articles similar

to those which gave character to that paper for the *Citizen*, and other writers heretofore engaged on the former will contribute to the latter. For the next few weeks and until the close of the volume the present form of the *Citizen* will be retained; after that time we shall alter the form substantially to that of the *Round Table*."

The *Chicagoan*, the *Sorosis*, and the *Advance Guard* of Chicago are to be amalgamated under the title of the *Universe*. The consolidated paper is to advocate spiritualism and women's rights!

Professor Goldwin Smith has given some offence to his admirers in the States by some remarks which he made at the annual dinner of the Toronto University Association on the 10th of June, when he is reported to have said: "As he was here under the safe protection of the British flag, he might say that the American Press was not universally celebrated for its intelligence, and one of the papers that had been particularly fierce in its denunciation of him had the day before had a brilliant article bearing on the hat and boots of a rival editor." Mr. Smith will learn the probably unexpected lesson that we do not approve of a man saying quite what he thinks, not only in, but of this land of liberty.

Two duels have occurred since the date of my last letter. Mr. R. W. Hughes, editor of the *State Journal* (organ of the Radicals), published at Richmond, Virginia, feeling aggrieved at an acrimonious personal denunciation of his conduct by Mr. W. E. Cameron, editor of the *Petersburg Index*, a Conservative paper, challenged that journalist. The parties met near the Virginia boundary, in the State of North Carolina, and at the first fire Mr. Cameron was placed *hors de combat* by receiving his antagonist's bullet in the breast. The wound, though severe, is not thought dangerous. The other hostile meeting took place on the historical field of Lundy's-lane on Sunday morning, the 13th inst. The belligerents were Senor Ferrer del Conto, editor of a Spanish newspaper of this city, entitled *El Cronista*, and a young Cuban, named Porto. The quarrel grew out of the Cuban insurrection, and the angry feelings excited thereby between the natives of the island and the upholders of the Spanish authority. At the first fire the Cuban was disabled by being shot through both legs, and is now lying in a critical condition at Niagara Falls. SOL.

New papers are said to be starting up in scores throughout the Western States.

One of the latest "developments" of American journalism is the creation of a new class of reporters called "interviewers." It is the business of these indefatigable and persistent gentlemen to waylay and intrude upon any person who happens to be for the moment a public character; engage in conversation with him; worm out his inmost secrets, if possible, and then publish the whole to the world. The late British minister was not allowed to rest himself after his voyage home, before he was visited by one of the personages. The interview fills two columns of small print; but the Minister was prudently reticent on the very points upon which the public desired to know his private opinions. President Grant has not escaped the attention of this class of hacks, but, says the *Standard*, had the good sense to play the part of Ulysses the Silent when in their company. Unable to detail anything beyond "horse talk" of the President, they interviewed his friends who had given him a drive, and reported what they said the President said! This manoeuvre gave Mr. Bonner, the proprietor of the *Ledger*, an opportunity to deny that the President had ever said so-and-so to him at all; which he availed himself of by sending a note to all the daily papers, and thus got a capital gratuitous advertisement for the *Ledger*.

A new paper, with the title of the *Hub*, has been started at Boston; it describes itself as "a journal for the carriage and car-shop." A new free trade daily, entitled the *Guardian*, is to be published shortly in Boston, with a capital of 200,000 dols. The present dailies in Boston are said to be doing well, and there has probably never been a time when there was such a general newspaper prosperity as the present. But whether a newspaper could start and fight its way to success and large profits, since it would have to get its news independently of the Associated Press, is a question. The death of Colonel C. O. Rogers has brought out the fact that the *Boston Journal* is valued at 500,000 dols., and the *Herald* has lately changed hands at a valuation of 400,000 dols. The *Post* and *Advertiser* have recently had new offices built, and the *Transcript* is about to do the same.

NEW ZEALAND.

The death is reported of Mr. James Allen, editor and proprietor of the *Evening News*. He was sub-editor of the *Southern Daily Cross* for three years, during the war times in the colony, and subsequently performed similar duties in Australia. Mr. Allen was drowned whilst bathing.

By a recent Act of the New Zealand Legislature, the following restrictions have been passed upon the publication of newspapers:—1st. That from and after the 1st January, 1869, every person who has a press or types for printing shall give notice of the same to the Registrar of the Supreme Court, under a penalty of from £5 to £20. 2nd. It imposes a similar penalty for the omission of the imprint of the printer's name and address on the first and last pages of any newspaper or book, for every copy up to 25, and all persons engaged in distributing such are subject to a similar penalty. 3rd. He must, under the same penalty, keep for six months one copy of every paper printed by him, and have written on such copy the name and address of the person employing him in it. 4th. His house (if not registered) may on any day be searched, under warrant from a justice, by a constable, for printing types or presses; and such, if they be found, may be carried away, together with all printed papers found there. 6th. No newspaper shall be published by any one until the same be registered, and oath taken by the parties concerned as to their being the several proprietors, printers, and publishers of the same, and their oath to be conclusive evidence against them in any action at law respecting the paper, even after their connection with it has ceased, unless a second oath has been taken and registered to that effect. 7th. No proof is to be required in any case of a paper having been purchased from any particular printer, nor of his having published it, beyond the imprint.

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—JULY 7.

(Sittings at Nisi Prius in London, before Mr. Justice KEATING and a Special Jury.)

VARLEY V. ELLIS.

THIS was an action against the publisher of the *Daily Telegraph*, to recover 13 penalties of £50 each, upon the ground that there had been inserted in that paper advertisements which were prohibited by the 25th George II., cap. 36.

Mr. Serjeant Robinson and Mr. E. P. Wood appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Giffard, Q.C., and Mr. Lewis for the defendant.

It appeared in the course of the case that the plaintiff was Susan Varley; but the witnesses who were questioned upon the matter could not say who or what she was. The statute upon which the action was founded was entitled "An Act for the Better Prosecuting of Thefts and Robberies, and for Punishing Persons Keeping Disorderly Houses." It recited that advertising for the return of things stolen or lost, for reward, and no questions asked, was one great cause of thefts and robberies; and the enactment was that in the case of any person publicly advertising a reward for the return of things stolen or lost, and saying that no questions would be asked, or promising or offering in any such public advertisement to any pawnbroker the return of the money advanced by him, or any other sum of money, the printer or publisher of such advertisement should forfeit for every such offence £50 to any person suing for the same.

Evidence was given to show that Mr. Ellis was the registered publisher of the *Daily Telegraph*, and copies of the paper containing the advertisements were given in evidence.

Mr. Serjeant Robinson said that he should abandon four of the counts, and proceed upon the remaining nine. The advertisements proceeded upon were put in and read. They referred to things which had been stolen and lost, and they offered rewards for the return of the property; and some of them said that no questions would be asked, and others that pawnbrokers and others would be liberally reimbursed.

Mr. Giffard submitted that the plaintiff had made out no case, as there was no evidence that any property had been stolen or lost, and he added that if such proofs were not required any person who wished to bring an action like this would simply have to

insert an advertisement, and then sue for the penalty. Further, he submitted that the enactment sued on had been repealed by the 7th and 8th George IV. cap. 27, which repealed various statutes, and also so much of the Act in question "as relates to advertisements therein prohibited."

Mr. Justice Keating, after some discussion, observed that the preamble of the 7th and 8th George IV. said that the statutes named would be repealed in order that the provisions might be amended and consolidated with the Act. This looked as though the repeal was only a provisional one, and he had an impression that the enactment remained in force in some shape.

Mr. Giffard submitted that it should be shown that the advertisements had been inserted *bona fide*, and not for the express purpose of bringing an action.

Mr. Justice Keating thought that the party suing had only to show that advertisements of a prohibited character had been inserted.

A verdict was ultimately entered for the defendant, but leave was reserved to the plaintiff to move the full Court for leave to enter the verdict for her for the penalties claimed.

MAJOR KNOX, the proprietor of the *Irish Times*, was defendant in an action for libel at the suit of a publican, named Maguire, which was tried on the 2nd July, but proved abortive, the jury disagreeing. The cause of action was the publication in the *Irish Times* of a garrison order issued in December, 1867, during the Fenian excitement, prohibiting soldiers from entering the plaintiff's house, and by which publication, as he alleged, his trade was seriously damaged. It was stated that ten out of a jury of eleven were in favour of defendant.

An action was brought in the Court of Exchequer, Dublin, by the Rev. Michael Gogerty, a Roman Catholic clergyman, against Mr. John Robinson, proprietor of the *Daily Express* newspaper, claiming £1,000 damages for an alleged libel, contained in two letters written by the Rev. Dr. Reichel, rector of Mullingar, and published in the *Daily Express*, on the 8th and 12th of March last, in reference to the murder of the late Mr. Anketell, station-master of M.G.W. Railway, at Mullingar. The trial commenced on the 6th inst., lasted two days, and resulted in a verdict for the defendant, Mr. Robinson.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. WILLIAM JERDAN.

THIS veteran journalist, the founder, and many years editor of the *Literary Gazette*, and London Editor of many provincial papers, expired on the 11th ultimo, at his quiet retreat at Bushey Heath, just beyond Stanmore, at the ripe age of eighty-eight. Mr. Jerdan was native of Kelso, N.B. In addition to his numerous journalistic writings, he gave to the world some years ago a four volume autobiography. He also wrote an interesting volume, entitled, "Men I have Known," about two years ago, and was connected with periodical literature for more than fifty years. In recent numbers of *Frazer's Magazine* are contributions from his pen, and the last two parts of the *Gentleman's Magazine* contain an article on the celebrated Beef-Steak Club, which no other living man could have written from personal knowledge. For several years recently he has contributed to the *Leisure Hour* a series of reminiscences of distinguished men, illustrated by characteristic letters. Some years ago he became the recipient of a pension of £100 a year for his literary services.

At the time of his decease, Mr. Jerdan was under engagement to write for the NEWSPAPER PRESS a series of articles on his Press friends and associations of years past, and his notes and letters on the subject, the last of which bears date only a week before his death, are now lying on our desk, sketching out the proposed plan and order of his contributions, which death has now forbidden our readers ever enjoying, as they no doubt would have enjoyed the anecdotes of a man who had been the intimate friend and, in many cases, the early adviser of some of the most eminent literary characters the last half century has produced. Glancing over the more recent correspondence with ourselves, he alludes to his recent literary work thus:—"I scarcely feel myself competent for any elaborate composition. Two papers in *Frazer's Magazine*

(March and April) obtained much commendation, and another I have prepared for another monthly in June, rather taxed my strength, and has left me exhausted."

MR. A. M. MOWATT.

The death of Mr. Alexander Murray Mowatt, who was connected with the newspaper Press of England and Scotland, expired at Liverpool on the 21st June, after a long and painful illness. Mr. Mowatt commenced his literary career in Aberdeen; from thence he removed to Edinburgh, where for several years he occupied a responsible position on the *Caledonian Mercury*; and there he obtained great reputation for his skill as a shorthand writer, his general ability, and scholarly attainments. He subsequently became the head of the reporting staff of the *Glasgow Herald*, but a few years ago he settled in Liverpool, where he was employed as a reporter on the local Press. Some time ago he was seized with congestion of the lungs and consumption (a disease fatal to many connected with the Press) set in, to which he became a victim at the early age of 81. Mr. Mowatt's kindness of disposition and genial manners endeared him to a large circle of friends at Liverpool.

MR. WILLIAM RAYNER.

Mr. William Rayner, who was for many years on the reporting staff of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, died on the 7th March at his residence, Riley-street, Surrey Hills, in the 84th year of his age. Mr. Rayner was a native of Shanklin, in the Isle of Wight, and his death was caused by typhoid fever, treated at first as sunstroke. He had become famous for his success as a rifle-shot, and greatly distinguished himself in competition with English riflemen. This remarkable faculty became suddenly known at a picnic of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, and had more time been devoted to its cultivation, Mr. Rayner would have had few equals as an accurate shot in the British dominions. During the first visit of the Duke of Edinburgh to Australia, most of the reports which appeared regarding His Royal Highness's proceedings were from Mr. Rayner's pen, and on quitting Sydney he forwarded to His Royal Highness a handsomely-bound copy of all that had been published in the *Herald* regarding the royal progress in the colony. Mr. Rayner was greatly respected by the literary staff of the paper, and enjoyed the confidence of the proprietors. Having been a member of the Sydney Volunteer Force, his remains would have been interred with the usual military honours; but at the earnest request of his connections, this formality was dispensed with, and the funeral cortege was composed chiefly of his co-workers in the *Herald* office.

MR. GEORGE HILL.

Died, on the 8th inst., aged 60, at Bacup, Lancashire, Mr. George Hill, after some twenty weeks' suffering from dropsy and heart disease. Mr. Hill was a native of the County of Wexford, Ireland, and was for many years in business as a printer. His early attempt in the literary line appeared in the *Dublin Penny Journal*, one of the marvels of cheap literature, conducted by P. D. Hardy, M.B.I.A.; his contributions consisting of articles on the scenery and antiquities of the counties of Wexford and Kilkenny, illustrated by drawings from his pencil. He was a valued correspondent of the *Waterford Mail*, when under Mr. Henderson's management, and was afterwards employed as reporter, &c., for the *Wexford Independent*, *Drogheda Conservative*, *Liverpool Herald*, *Rochdale Pilot*, and the *Bacup and Rosserdale News*. He was a classical scholar, and a short time before his last illness he was preparing for publication a translation of the odes of Anacreon, specimens of which have already appeared in the Lancashire and Irish Press.

A FIRST-CLASS novelty in provincial journalism is announced to appear in August, in the shape of a paper to be called the *Illustrated Midland News*. The new journal will be devoted chiefly to the interests of the Midland Counties, and various incidents of note will be illustrated in a superior manner. It is intended by the proprietors that the new paper shall be in the provinces what the *Illustrated London News* is in London, and it is to steer clear of politics.

Home Subjects.

THE "LIVERPOOL MAIL" now appears at the price of one penny. THE *Public Schools Chronicle* has ceased to appear; and "Under the Crown," a monthly magazine, has been discontinued.

MR. O'DOWD, of the *Army and Navy Gazette*, has been appointed Deputy Judge-Advocate.

"BELL'S LIFE IN LONDON" is, we hear, coming out at a penny for the Wednesday, and twopence the Saturday editions.

A NEW PAPER, the *Ipswich Free Lance*, price three-halfpence, is announced.

MR. W. HEFORTH DIXON is about leaving England on a long tour through Russia. It is understood that he will not return to the editorial chair of the *Athenæum*.

A NEW halfpenny daily newspaper is talked of, which is to appear simultaneously in four or five large towns besides London. It is to be carried out by the Central Press Association.

IN consequence of the death of the proprietor, the goodwill, copyright, plant, and back stock of the "Pulpit" is advertised for sale. This well-known publication was first started in 1823.—*Press News*.

THE "PAUL MALL GAZETTE" and the *Globe* are new both reduced in price to one penny—the former coming out at that price on the 1st of July, and the latter altering its size and form to those now more generally adopted.

TWO COMPANIES under the Limited Liability Act, at Ipswich, are now in course of liquidation, having sold their respective publications, viz.: the *Suffolk Mercury*, and *Essex Journal*, which belonged to the Suffolk and Essex Newspaper Company (Limited), and the *Ipswich and Colchester Times*, the property of the Ipswich Newspaper and Printing Company (Limited). The five papers are purchased by a spirited firm.

THE PROPRIETORS of the *Sportsman* have found it necessary to raise the price of that paper from one penny to three half-pence, in consequence of the recent decision of the Law Courts, which makes the advertisements of betting offices illegal. This source of revenue amounted to several thousands a year, and the only alternative left the proprietors has been to increase the price of the paper.

THE NEWSPAPERS AND THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—A circular has been issued by the authorities of the British Museum requesting publishers of newspapers to send the copies of their papers, which they formerly delivered at Somerset House, to Mr. W. H. Lethbridge, at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's, Strand, marked, "For the British Museum."

THE STANDARD.—When the prospectus of the *Standard* appeared, it was with the motto, "Signifer pone signum; his optime manebimus." This motto was continued in the advertisements of the paper till the very eve of its publication; but it never appeared in the paper itself. The cause of its omission was much discussed, and many thought at the time that it was because the motto appeared to point to Maguire, the well known "Signifer" of Blackwood, as the editor; whereas, though he was connected with the paper, it was only as a subordinate.—*Notes and Queries*.

ILLEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.—In a short leader in the last number of the NEWSPAPER PRESS, attention was called to an old Act of George the Second's time, by which any advertisement offering a reward for the recovery of stolen goods, and promising that no questions shall be asked on the restoration, are made strictly illegal, and are subject to penalties of £50 for each insertion. An action was last month brought in the Court of Common Pleas against the publisher of a London daily newspaper to recover thirteen fines of £50 each for certain of these advertisements; the verdict was for the defendant, the publisher, as the Act in question was about to be repealed; but leave was given to the plaintiff to move a full court to enter the verdict in his favour for the penalties claimed.

WHO SPEAKS FIRST?—A Western American editor prints the following advertisement:—"Wanted, at this office, a boy to take sheets from the press every Wednesday and Saturday afternoon. No limits as to salary, and the said boy is to consider that the office exists for his special convenience. If he don't feel well, or wants to go fishing, or play marbles, or see match games of baseball, or go shopping with his girl, or visit his cousin, the paper

will wait his sovereign pleasure. Anybody who presumes to criticise his efforts is to be immediately arrested for contempt. All the boys he knows are to have free run of the office. The editor's time to be exclusively at the aforesaid boy's disposal. Salary to be drawn several years before. A boy possessing these qualifications, please report where he can be found, and at what time a deputation of printers may call upon him and respectfully present references of good character on the part of the office and its employes. Please write for postage-stamps on gilt-edged paper."

MR. TIMBS.—We regret to see in the *Gazette* the name of "John Timbs, author." Is this what a long, industrious, and laborious life has come to? Mr. Timbs was for thirteen years editor of the *Mirror*, the pioneer of cheap literature, and of the *Literary World*, and a constant contributor to the *Illustrated London News* and other papers. He has been a voluminous compiler and a collector of important and interesting facts, and although never reaching the higher walks of literature, ought to have reaped the reward due to his indefatigable industry in the least fascinating, but not the least useful branch of his profession. He had both friends and patrons once, as the subscription list to the "Curiosities of London" bears witness—have they deserted him in "the sear and yellow leaf?"

GRENVILLE MURRAY ON THE PRESS.—With respect to newspaper comments, no person of experience will attach importance to them. Our newspapers represent genius, learning, and virtue, but likewise every sort of human folly, unreason, and venality. Whosoever is momentarily the theme of many writings will have his motives sometimes misconstrued, his language misrepresented, and his deeds ill-judged. I am surprised to find myself standing up almost alone for a right upon which the liberty of the Press is based. Long security has rendered English journalists careless of the safeguards which alone preserve their independence. But the literary men of other countries, and more especially of those younger States where the principles of free discussion are unsettled, will learn with amazement and alarm that during the progress of a law-suit against a British Government official, the defendant may seize the manuscripts of a newspaper to search for the plaintiff's handwriting among its contributors.

THE CHARACTER OF THE PRESS.—At a period when English journalism is, from manifold causes, passing through a complete revolution, we most heartily endorse the following wholesome remarks of the *Press News*:—"It is to be hoped that as the standard prices of newspapers are descending to a general and more economical level, their reputation will not decrease with such reduction, but that whether published at a penny or a halfpenny, they will ever continue to maintain their high character as the leaders and advisers of the people; and as much as possible refrain from those ebullitions of party rancour and jealous rivalry which so frequently occur to undermine the prestige, the intellect, and the power of the newspaper Press in general; neither can its conductors or contributors be looked upon as teachers and guides when their own reputations and domestic characters will not bear looking into. We have had too much of this sort of literary scandal lately, in the sad backslidings of men in high positions, who seem as anxious as ever to keep their names continually before the public, unabashed by recent legal exposures and censures. The Press to be powerful must be true to itself and its honour."

COMIC PAPERS IN RUSSIA.—The chief comic papers of St. Petersburg are *Iskra* (The Spark) and *Budilnik* (The Alarm-Bell), which, in tone, character, and general programme, may represent respectively—though in a very inferior degree—*Punch* and the *Tomahawk*. Of the two *Budilnik* has the superiority in pictorial illustration; but its satire is almost invariably of a savage and personal character, such as would not be permitted by the editors of *Iskra*; it has also a tendency to political allusions, which will not improbably occasion its ultimate suppression. Both papers, however, are of some years' standing, and have now an extensive circulation; and there is still hope that they may participate in the general improvement which the present reign has inaugurated throughout Russia. The most encouraging symptom in this country is the fact that the Government has begun to perceive that it is hardly worth while to hire a number of men at exorbitant prices to deface articles which they cannot read, and condemn books which they do not

understand. Should the rumoured modifications of the censorship prove genuine, they will find very few gainsayers.—*Athenæum*.

THE "TIMES" MACHINERY.—The *Times* is now printed by new machinery so perfect and "so simple that it takes but one engineer and three labourers to print off the whole edition of the *Times*, which to-day contains 20 pages. The paper is not cut into sheets before it is printed, but is brought to the machine in a long roll. It passes through the machine, is printed on both sides, and is divided as it passes out, the whole process being automatic. The idea has long been worked at by engineers, but has only lately been practically carried out, under the superintendence of Mr. Macdonald, the engineer who has charge of the whole *Times* machinery. The new machine is called the Walter Press, in honour of the chief proprietor of the *Times*. It will quite supersede the Hoe machines, and it is an improvement upon the admirable French Marinoni machine upon which the *Echo* is printed."

JOURNALISTIC EXAGGERATION.—We appear to be existing in a new era in journalistic literature—an era as sensational as that inaugurated by Miss Braddon in fiction, but likely to prove much much more injurious. People do not generally accept the novel of the period as a truthful delineation of life as it is, and assuredly not of life as it ought to be; but, until lately, men were rather apt to believe that their newspapers were at least honest and trustworthy. Now we have changed all that. The simplest incident is so twisted and coloured for effect, that one must sift the affair throughout before arriving at an approximation to the facts. To raise a laugh seems the journalist's highest ambition; to tell the truth his greatest difficulty.—*Scottish Typographical Circular*.

Notes and Queries.

WILLIAM JERDAN.—The death of this veteran journalist deprives our readers of a series of twenty articles which he had in preparation for this journal on the Press friends of his earlier years. Unfortunately he had only commenced (to use his own word) a "rummage" among his papers for the materials of what would doubtless have been a most interesting series, when death paralysed his hand for ever.
F. S. C.—Angus Reach.

SAMSON OR SAMPSON.—We hope it is not to decide a bet, but we must reply that the city editor of the *Times* spells his name with the "P." To your second query—John Oxenford; to your third—Captain Alsager.

R. T.—Mr. Lethbridge is brother-in-law, and we believe a partner, of the member for Westminster, and has full authority from the trustees. We advise you to comply with the terms of the circular, which is official.

Obituary.

ADAMS, HENRY, many years editor of the *Derby and Chesterfield Reporter*, on the 25th ult., aged 54, after two days' illness.

ALLAN, JAMES, editor and proprietor of the *Southland Evening News*, New Zealand, accidentally drowned.

HILL, GEORGE, journalist and reporter at Bamp, Lancashire, aged 60.

JERDAN, WILLIAM, at Bushey Heath, founder and many years editor of the *Literary Gazette* and other papers.

MOWATT, A. M., journalist and reporter at Liverpool, aged 31.

RAYNER, WILLIAM, reporter on the *Sydney Morning Herald*, March 7th.

RAVE, DR. BERNHARD, from 1844 to 1864 chief editor of the *Elberfelder Zeitung*, at Elberfeld.

RYSWYCK, A. VAN., a well-known Flemish journalist, at Antwerp.

BANKRUPT.

BURKE, WILLIAM EDWARD, Vincent Terrace, Islington, advertising agent.

PARTNERSHIP DISSOLVED.

VIZETELLY & Co., Catherine Street, Strand, publisher of *Echoes from the Clubs*, so far as regards J. R. Robinson.

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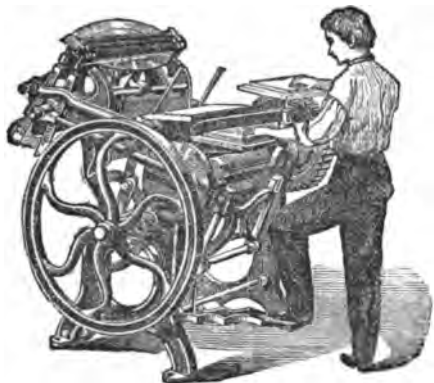
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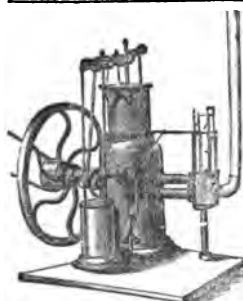
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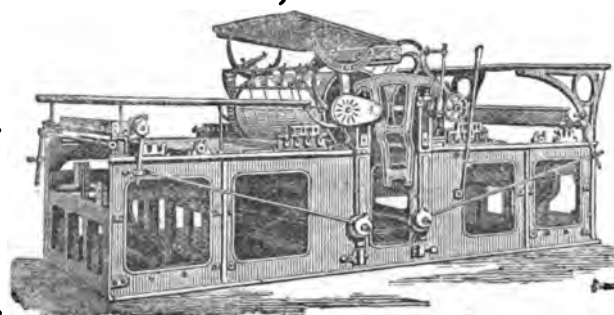
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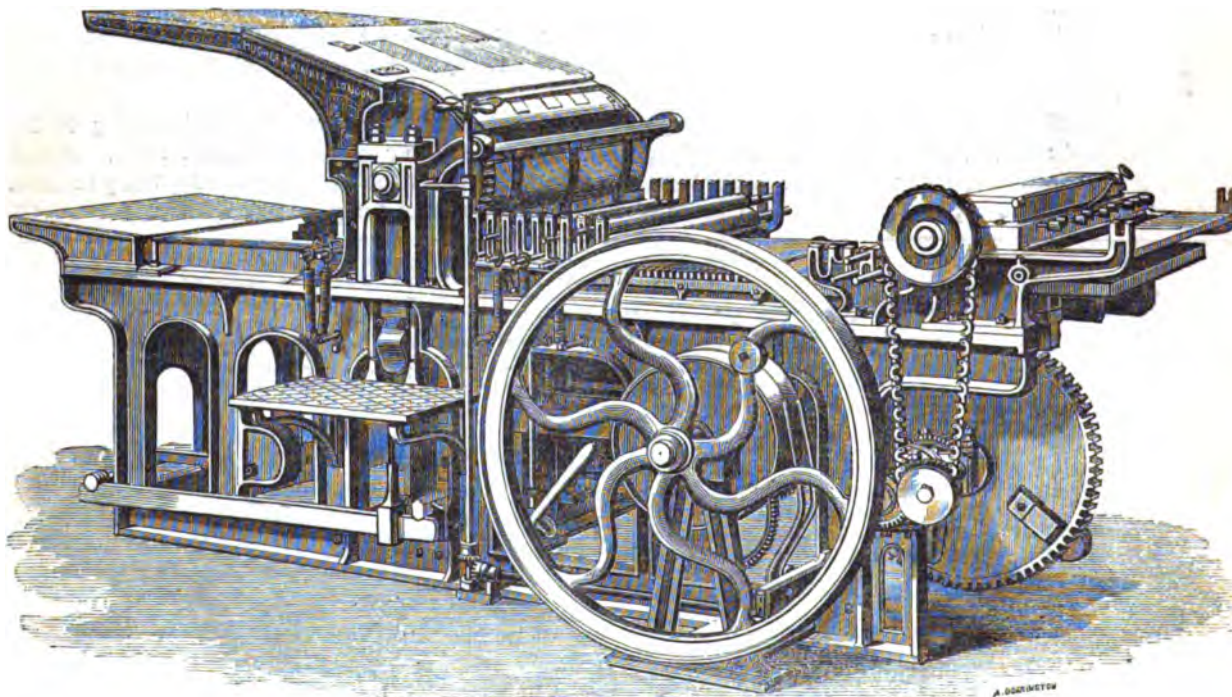
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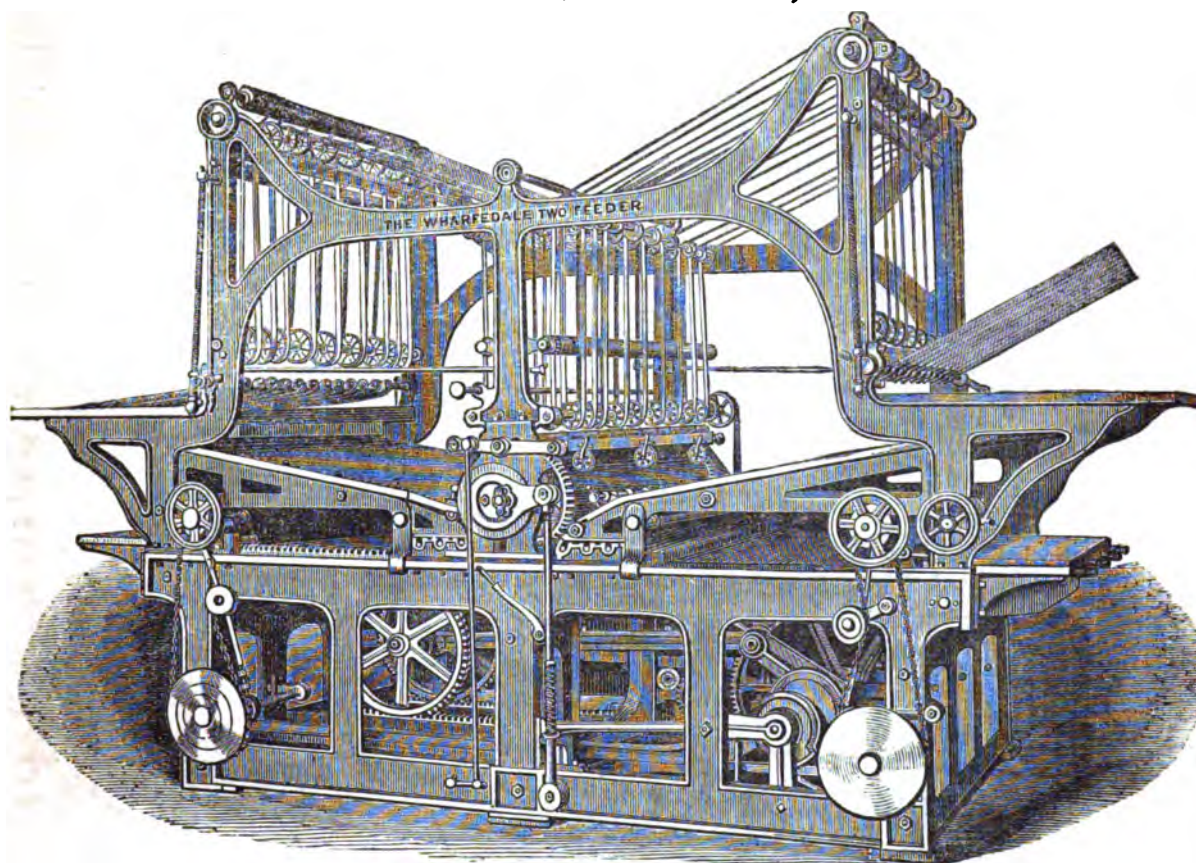
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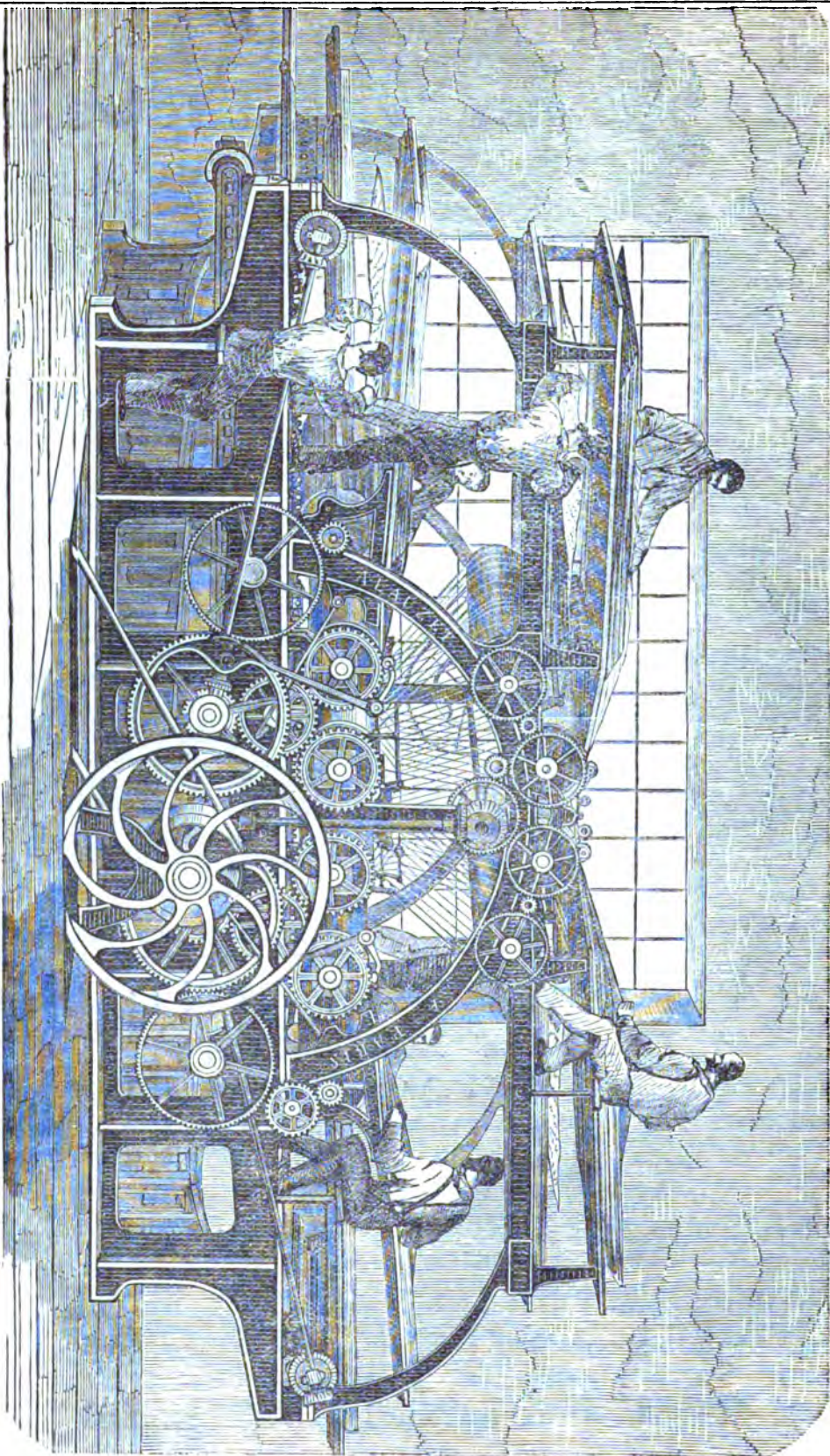
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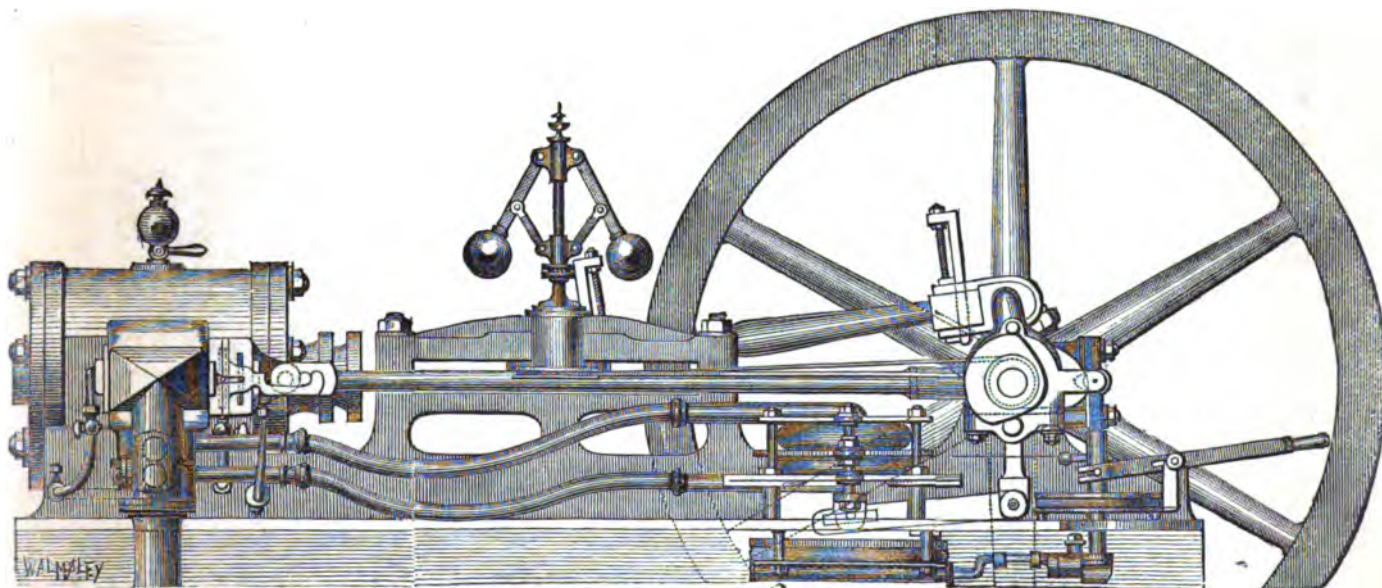
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We believe the fact has never been concealed that the Newspaper Press Fund has from the first disappointed the hopes of its promoters; and at the recent meeting Lord Houghton has, in fact, admitted that its progress and the amount of favour and acceptance it has met with have not been commensurate with the excellence of its design. It is not necessary to turn about very much to find the causes of results that are certainly to be deplored, but give no reason for despondency. Something of the kind, on a much smaller scale, had been attempted before, and through mismanagement or default had come to grief, and this caused many persons in the first instance to stand aloof from it. Finding that it hung fire, the projectors of the present Fund sought the prestige and support of Parliamentary and other public characters, and journalists of an independent spirit feared that this might compromise them in the eyes of the world by an inference that their journals would be under some sort of obligation to the patrons of the Fund. Provincial journalists from the outset conceived a jealous suspicion of it, believing that its benefits would be reserved for their metropolitan brethren. There were other causes at work which combined to render its early progress slow. A writer in this journal pointed to one in particular, that a life policy was considered a more available security at a time of pressure.

We must confess that at the period of its foundation we participated in all these prejudices to, we fear, their full extent. With an almost chivalrous pride in journalism time was when we had hoped that this Association would have at once practically beaten down the public belief that the literary profession was hopelessly allied with habits of improvidence, and that that particular branch of it which ministered to newspapers was made up of men who had a total disregard for the future. That popular delusion has been lived down, but we had hopes that the Newspaper Press Fund would have been taken advantage of to dissipate it. Better, perhaps, that the superior intelligence of all classes has brought about a more perfect appreciation of the habits of the respectable and acknowledged professors of journalism, and made the outside public aware that we are not all penny-aliners, and that the earnings of brain and health are not dissipated in midnight orgies in taverns, although they may not have been uniformly invested in the Newspaper Press Fund. Some of the principal and safest life assurance companies could disclose where those hard earned savings go.

Admitting to their fullest extent the reasons, the causes, and the prejudices that have retarded the progress of this admirable Fund—blameless and even justifiable as we claim them to have been—we believe the executive have exercised a very wise discretion in opening its portals to proprietors, and even to a modified extent to the mechanical departments of the Press.

"The Press!"—we dialike it as a toast or an emblem. "The Press" is, after all, a machine of iron worked by skilful manipulation, but what would the Press be, or wherein would lie its use, without the mental material, which mere printers are too apt to overlook? It is an auxiliary—and a very important one—in promulgating the ideas of intellect, in spreading them over a wide surface; but it is purely mechanical, and history, morals, and the great principles of science—the rudimentary stores of great minds, have come down to us before iron engines and types were in vogue. Intellect, if it be ethereal, floats in the air and can never be repressed, but the cunning workman in iron and steel secures it and fixes it. "The Press," therefore, is simply emblematical of a greater power—the mind.

But when ordinary printers, of whom newspaper history furnishes us with so many examples, from an inborn inspiration or an intuitive perception which is almost tantamount to it, to discover the best men to do the work vicariously, establish or carry on newspapers which become standards of public opinion, it must be a very narrow-minded man—and there was not one at the recent meeting—who would not hail the accession of this class as an earnest of a consolidation of interests which will make the Newspaper Press Fund an institution worthy of its name.

Therefore with the faintest breath of protest—the last gasp of a dying sentiment—we give in our adhesion to the resolution the committee have come to, and, inspiring a long breath, refreshing to ourselves as divested of old prejudices, give them a hearty cheer upon the new and promising course they have opened out.

THE justices in Petty Sessions assembled at Spittlegate seem to be somewhat behind the age in their appreciation of the importance of journalism, if the following statement of the *Grantham Journal* of the 21st ult. be correct, as we have no reason to doubt it is:—

"Will not our readers be surprised to learn that the reporter of the *Grantham Journal* was yesterday refused proper accommodation at the Spittlegate Petty Sessions Court. A pen-and-ink sketch of the interior of the room will adequately convey to the public the disadvantages under which a reporter labours in taking his notes there. Beneath, and right in front of the bench is a large table, at the head of which sits the magistrates' clerk and his deputy, while around the said table sit the solicitors. In a slantangular direction, and in close proximity to where the criminals are arraigned, is a little stool, on which it is impossible to sit upright, and upon that the reporter is supposed to perch himself to write on his knee or on the crown of his hat, what the public look for with anxiety next morning in the columns of our paper. We put it to dispassionate judgment whether this is proper accommodation for an educated man!—the representative of a journal claiming thousands for a constituency. . . . With these difficulties in our way the proprietor of the *Journal* wrote a few weeks ago to the magistrates, requesting that his reporter be allowed to use the unoccupied table for the purpose of taking his notes, and the matter came before the court yesterday. Mr. Escritt's letter having been read by their worships, Mr. Mannors (clerk) had a consultation with Mr. Turnor, after which our reporter was called forward and informed by Mr. Turnor that he would not be permitted to sit at the little unoccupied table in the recess, and unless he felt satisfied with the stool near the prisoners he could leave the court, he (Mr. Turnor) adding, 'We do not want you here.' This was neither accommodating nor courteous, and thereupon our reporter informed the bench that for want of proper accommodation he should leave the court and acquaint his employer of the circumstance."

"We do not want you here!" This, we are aware, is the feeling of more than one bench of magistrates towards the reporters of

the Press; but it happens that the public *do* want them there, and will insist on knowing what goes on at these Petty Sessions throughout the country. In these days it is beyond the power of any responsible body to keep the reporters, who are the agents and representatives of the public, out of court. Practically the proceedings of the Spittlegate Court are being carried on privately by the forced absence of the reporters; but we feel persuaded that no body of English gentlemen will persist in a course which deprives justice of half its dignity—that of bearing the full glare of publicity, and renders its administrators open to a suspicion of desiring to pass their judgments in private. The course adopted towards the reporter has no doubt never occurred to the justices as throwing on their court the slur of a secret tribunal; but when this view presents itself to them, we feel convinced that they will hasten to relieve themselves of any chance of a misinterpretation of their motives.

MEN OF THE PRESS.

BY CYRUS REDDING.

XX.—DANIEL WHITTLE HARVEY.

THE *Sunday Times* was established by Daniel Whittle Harvey, one of those characters which come out occasionally on the stage of public life in London, and then disappear as suddenly. A man of considerable tact and shrewdness, he was also characterised by that appearance of sagacity which seems to create curiosity rather than excite attention from respect, or from the idea of receiving from him any information of moment. That he was a peculiar man a stranger might discover from his bearing and address. His connection with the Press, however, was a speculation entered into in order to push his fortunes with the public. It was this, there is no doubt, that led him to try the instrumentality of a public organ, which, however well adapted to men in other circumstances as to popularity, was in his case not very likely to succeed. He did not, however, perceive this, but while he imagined that his abilities were equal to the task of conducting a work of the kind, he did not calculate all the difficulties of maintaining the position in which, by no little commonplace finesse, he achieved a momentary success. He started the *Sunday Times* successfully, but its success was owing to a series of acts to which a small mind only could have had recourse. He displayed stratagems and tricks of a trade never before in connection with similar undertakings, and through them he was successful. Individuals were sent to inns and public places, who, calling for some refreshment, always demanded to see the new paper. Commercial travellers for London houses were instructed in the course of their business, when travelling from town to town, to demand the paper. The innkeeper well knew how much it was his interest, in a country town especially, to oblige his commercial customers. By this and similar means he worked up the *Sunday Times* into a large circulation. The demand for it quickly became extensive, and the new paper, in country places particularly, became a common topic of conversation. When the stratagem got wind, however, it could not be repeated, and yet it was but an old trick which had been forgotten, so that Harvey was not the inventor of that to which he owed his success. In addition to this good fortune, it appeared that the machinery of the *Observer* paper broke down just at the moment that the trial of the murderer Thurtell was about to appear, and the very best account was that in the *Sunday Times*, the sale of which was in consequence prodigious.

Harvey, at an advantageous moment, sold the paper, and it continued to improve, and to merit increased success. He vainly imagined success would attend a renewal of a similar experiment, but his hope was vain. The *True Sun*, on which he expended almost all the money he had or could raise, became a failure to himself and to others who supported him. His first success he did not perceive was due to accident or rather to stratagem. A daily paper was beyond his tact, or experience, to carry out successfully, yet Harvey afterwards edited a paper called the *Weekly True Sun*, but it made no way. He wanted the steadiness and

that peculiar ability needful, and imagined that in the promulgation of his own sentiments and ideas, he did all that was requisite towards making known that which he desired should win over the public. A paper will not succeed so conducted. The peculiar opinions of the editor alone, when the main principles of the publication should move with a mass more or less numerous and be the keynote, he should insinuate indirectly. The public is a conceited and very odd animal, and its applause is much or more a matter of accident than either of justice or discrimination. Besides, the mind of a mass or mob is never ruled by individual judgment, however superior it may be. Intellect has little multitudinous influence—all depends on the mode of its presentation more than its sterling value. Common sense prevails with the many according to the mode in which it is tendered. Hence the conclusions of minds of a superior calibre are only accepted on their own merits by the few, and only make way step by step in gaining over the multitudinous conviction.

Harvey had a seat in the House of Commons, and there he was heard with the attention of curiosity more than respect, because what he had to say was well delivered in a novel mode. He spoke with the eloquence of one who had made the art a study; and yet nature alone was his instructor. Thus, in forensic phraseology, he always "had the ear of the House." He spoke correctly, and his censures, if unsparing, were not so merciless as sarcastic, and less ill-natured than pleasantly cutting to the ears of the members, which were always strained to catch the satire or ridicule that he did not spare, either to those on one side or the other, with both of whom he would break a lance at the same time. He always amused when his attacks fell ineffective; but this was not often the case, as he kept the House all attention in attacks upon pensioners and men of every party. His imagery generally was new, and always amusing. His ability was not to be questioned, and he was independent of party, for none coveted him. He was, as to actions, free as air, for he had no political attachments. But though his talents thus far were unquestionable in mode and delivery, he was not a statesman. Of politics he knew little, in the true sense of the word. It was not possible he could be otherwise than he was, for he had not character to second his ability, nor versatility to put on novel aspects. His name was clouded, and that circumstance must be fatal to collateral support in public life. A court of law fixed a stigma upon him, never to be removed. He was declared by the Inns of Court not admissible to the Bar, of which he might, with his talents, have been an ornament. Bred as an attorney, he had obtained considerable practice; but his life was blighted by his want of uprightness. He was returned to Parliament for Colchester, and from his consciousness of disappointment he felt he must act alone, when he really desired to be a leader of some political section—for who would follow him?

He was ultimately placed at the head of the City Police, and, we believe, died in that post. He had once tried to act as a Parliamentary agent, but as soon as it was known, he was cut off from that resource by the distaste the House of Commons had for him.

It was not until then that he turned towards the Press, and established the *Sunday Times*, as already stated, successfully, but more by stratagem than straightforward action. Here his successful career terminated in that line. He had no experience—none of that tact requisite for the conduct of a newspaper; for the best pen has here no better chance with the public than the most indifferent. The masses are things of impulse, and an accident the most trivial may in that way attain its end, that from the noblest sentiments in printing, expressed in the most eloquent language, and prominent in sense and reason, shall not raise even a momentary success. It must be added, that though it appears an easy matter to write for the Press, few are successful, unless they know how to obtain for their writing the sentiments, and to affect the passions of a class, in place of delivering their own, it may be very superior, ideas. The masses, whose ignorance is often their pride, when uneducated beyond the elements of their native tongue, are as little open to change or conviction as the Lords' House upon a question of its own dignity.

Harvey, though thus a man of natural ability, and of a superior order, was nothing more. The extent of his acquired knowledge was that which is limited by the object of the multitude, or to the making-way in life out of the straight path, rather than not suc-

ceed, and in eagerness overreaching his mark. Yet were his natural powers sufficient to fix the attention of the House of Commons. All were listening "curiously" when he spoke, though with no higher motive, it being a tribute to natural ability, and not to the moral bearing of the man. His oratory was peculiar, but effective; he dealt his blows right and left, as if he were reckless of the affection or distaste of any party; although he must have been sensible that his position was well comprehended, that he gratified curiosity rather than commanded respect, or had credit for his motives in what he said, not for his sincerity in their utterance. As a newspaper editor he mistook his vocation. His first success was a trick, and the failure of his subsequent attempts the natural course of things.

In his position in the City Police it is probable he was at home and efficient, at least he was much more likely to be so than the late head of that of Westminster. Both, however, drilled men like soldiers—more for show than service. The very order and species of discipline that renders the soldier effective defeats the exercise of the police duties. The regularity, publicity, and bodily action, which is essential to the military, is an obstacle here. Crimes are continually committed, and their authors escape, that which the tact and vigilance of the old Bow-street officers would have wormed out, and delivered over to justice.

CLIPPINGS FROM AN OLD FILE.

LOT THE FIRST.

FRANKING NEWSPAPERS.—The following curious announcement occurs in *Bell's Weekly Messenger* of May 16th, 1813. It refers to a Monday edition of the paper, "which may then be had and sent free of postage to any person in the country, by directing it to Lord Onslow, at the person's residence for whom it is intended, in the usual manner of franked newspapers."

THE PROSECUTION OF THE "EXAMINER" AND THE HUNTS.—After their conviction for a libel on the Prince Regent, and on being called up for judgment, John and Leigh Hunt put in an affidavit in anticipation and mitigation of a fine, in which they thus allude to the early history of their paper: "With respect to their pecuniary resources (they are informed and believe that an erroneous opinion hath gone abroad greatly magnifying the same, and they feel they have not altogether a right in regard to their families, to omit to contradict the said reports), that although their concern in the said newspaper is at present in a promising condition, and such as to enable them to maintain a respectable appearance, early difficulties, arising from the heavy expenses of setting up their business, and other causes of a private nature, have nearly anticipated its profits up to the present hour." The *Examiner* was at that time five years old.

THE SENTENCE OF THE HUNTS.—The sentence in the above case has often been misquoted. It was delivered by Mr. Justice Le Blanc, and was as follows: "That you severally pay to the King a fine of £500 each; that you be severally imprisoned for the space of two years—you, John Hunt, in the prison of Coldbath Fields, and you, Leigh Hunt, in the new jail for the county of Surrey, in Horsemonger-lane; that at the expiration of that time you each of you give security in £500, and two sufficient sureties in £250, for your good behaviour during five years, and that you be farther severally imprisoned until such fine be paid and such security given." Just now, when the *Examiner* is entering a new phase in its existence, these little incidents in its early history may be of some interest.

THE PRESS IN 1811.—The Stamp and Advertisement Duty paid by newspapers in the year amounted to £415,000. There were 54 papers published in London, and about 114 in the rest of England.

THE LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE WORLD!—*Bell's Weekly Messenger* of Sunday, October 31st, 1813 (No. 918), contained the following announcement: "UNEXAMPLED SALE OF A NEWSPAPER.—*Bell's Weekly Messenger* of Sunday and Monday last attained to the most astonishing sale that was ever known in the history of the newspaper Press. The number published and sold was EIGHTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PAPERS. It is, perhaps, unnecessary to add that the ordinary average sale of *Bell's Weekly Messenger* exceeds that of any THREE of the most popular papers printed." On reference to the previous number there is no ap-

parent reason for an exceptional demand, except a rough map of the seat of war in Germany. The price was then eightpence.

"LONDON GAZETTES" IN FRENCH.—In 1813 the British Government resorted to the extraordinary expedient of printing some thousand copies of the *Gazette* in the French language, containing accounts of Bonaparte's reverses, and distributing them in all practicable points on the French shores.

"THE EXAMINER."—An early number of the *Examiner* (No. 63, Sunday, March 12th, 1809) is now before me. It was then "Printed and Published by John Hunt, at the *Examiner* Office, 15, Beaufort-buildings, Strand." Price Eightpence-halfpenny. It consisted of sixteen pages a trifle smaller than those of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*.

SCURRILOUS PAPERS.—Among the literary stabbers of the Georgian era, fifty years ago, were the *Scourge* and *Town Talk*, two papers of too infamous a character to have been ever mentioned in newspaper history. Their proprietors were always undergoing the wholesome discipline of Newgate, in whose records, no doubt, the names of Lee of the one paper, and Agg of the other could be found.

AN UNREPORTED CASE.—In 1812 the proprietor of the *Brighton Herald* was sentenced, on a criminal information, to pay a fine of £100, and be imprisoned for three months in Horsham Gaol, for a libel on Miss Elizabeth Somerset, eldest daughter of Lord Charles Henry Somerset. Judgment went by default; there were no pleas, and there is no record of the trial in the law books.

LOVELL of the *Statesman* was prosecuted by Government in 1812, for a libel on the Commissioners of the Transport Service, charging them with neglect and cruelty towards prisoners of war. As he was then undergoing imprisonment he was brought up in custody to receive judgment, which he had allowed to go by default. He put in an affidavit of his own, and others from George Houston, his editor, and Swan, his printer, to the effect that he did not know of the publication of the incriminating letter till long after it appeared; that he was then very angry, and insisted on the insertion of an immediate contradiction, "charging the editor and printer with having entered into a conspiracy to ruin him." "Mr. Brougham," who defended him, characterised the libel as "most foolish and palpably ridiculous," for which he was rebuked by Lord Ellenborough. Finally, Mr. Justice Le Blanc sentenced the already-prisoner to a fine of £500, imprisonment in Newgate for a year and a half, to commence at the expiry of his present term; then to find sureties, himself in £1,000, and two others of £500 each, for three years; and to be farther imprisoned till such bail was found. Such sentences might be tolerated in the excitement of war time, but would scarcely pass without comment now.

THE CHELMSFORD CHRONICLE.—In No. 6 of the *Chelmsford Chronicle*, September 14th, 1764, the proprietor, after thanking his patrons for the favour shown to his new paper, proceeds: "It has, however, been insinuated by some insidious persons who are daily propagating the most scandalous falsehoods concerning it, that he will not be able to establish it. He hopes and doubts not but the gentlemen of this county will view all these aspersions in a proper light, for he is determined, as he has met with such encouragement, to spare no sort of expense to establish it in the most effectual manner, and hereby offers a reward of five guineas to any person who shall prove the propagation of such illegal aspersions as have been thrown out against this paper, to be paid on the conviction of the offender. The invention of these scandalous falsities can be attributed to nothing but the most unbounded ENVY and REVENGE."

NEWSPAPERS BEFORE STEAM-POWER.—On February 23rd, 1862, John Bell, the proprietor of *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, announced with rapture that his Sunday and Monday editions had reached the "astonishing sale" of 15,000 weekly—a result of which, without doubt, he had good reason to be proud. And he goes on, "as the assertion of the above fact seems to stagger the belief even of practical printers, it may not be improper to inform them that the whole publication is produced within the course of thirty-six hours by multiplied powers of operation and at an expense enormous in proportion to the produce." He farther declares his intention of trying how far it is possible to extend the sale of a British newspaper when conducted on USEFUL and LIBERAL PRINCIPLES. His enterprise was eventually rewarded by reaching a circulation of 20,000 for the two editions—a great triumph, in

those days, fairly won, with a threepenny stamp on each copy, and with a tax of ten thousand a year to pay for his stamps and advertisement duty.

THE INDIAN PRESS UNDER "JOHN COMPANY."—In 1797 a series of orders and regulations were promulgated in India, at the instigation of the Court of Directors, with the concurrence of the Board of Control, by which all newspapers published in the three presidencies of Bombay, Madras, and Bengal, must be first submitted to the inspection of the Secretary of the Government; the penalty annexed to the breach of this condition being immediate deportation for Europe.

"THE TIMES" AND ITS COMPOSITORS.—Twenty-one of the printers of the *Times* having been found guilty at the Old Bailey Sessions of combination and conspiracy to raise the rate of wages on the *Times* were sentenced, December 11th, 1810, as follows: two to be imprisoned two years in Newgate and pay a fine of one shilling; three, eighteen months with a like fine; three, twelve months with a like fine; and eleven, nine months and a like fine; the Recorder remarking, "Persons of your description must be taught to feel the effects of that contumacy in which they presume to wrestle with the laws of the land, and to set up their daring combinations and edicts against the good order and well-being of society, and the interests of honest industry."

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS IN SPAIN.—It is worthy of remark at a time when liberty has just been accorded to the Press in Spain, that fifty years ago there was a three days' warm discussion in the Cortes on the subject. More than twenty deputies took part in it, and Signor Torrero, in the course of a brilliant peroration, exclaimed, "The people have one resource, the Press. But if that be debarred them, what signifies it whether they be enslaved by one, by five, by twenty, by an hundred? It is therefore one of the rights of mankind to have free liberty of the Press; a system both wise in theory and confirmed by practice and experience. England, by enjoying it, has successfully resisted despotism. Whilst the liberty of the Press exists, Parliaments cannot be suppressed; on the contrary, they gather strength to curb the Crown. The high situation in which England now is placed arises from the Press; for a free Press in a free country gives that powerful arm of public opinion, without which all others are vain."

SENEX.

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

X.—JACKSON'S OXFORD JOURNAL.

MR. ANDREWS, in his "History of British Journalism," dates the birth of the present *Oxford Journal* as being in 1740; but this would seem to be a mistake. Oxford had no newspaper prior to 1746. In that year came out the *Oxford Flying Weekly Journal and Cirencester Gazette*. We had an inspection of the last number (No. 52) of the first volume of this paper a year or two ago. It bore the date of 31st August, 1747. This "*Flying Journal*," which was the progenitor of the *Oxfordshire Press*, had an existence of about seven years, and was followed, in May, 1753, by the present *Journal*, published at Oxford, under the title of *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, which title it retains. The founder of this paper was William Jackson, a printer, of Oxford, who, in his opening address, in 1753, said, "If it should be asked by our readers what party the publisher of this paper professes, he begs leave to reply that he is a Printer. It is not his business to trouble himself with any interest but his own; his paper is open to all." After Mr. Jackson's death the paper became the joint property of Mr. Grosvenor, the celebrated surgeon of Oxford, and Mr. William Hall, proprietor of the Swan Brewery, Oxford. On the death of Mr. Grosvenor, Mr. Hall became sole proprietor, and on his decease, it descended to his only son, Mr. Henry Hall, who died in 1862, and it is now in the hands of trustees acting on behalf of his younger children. It is worthy of note, in reference to the *Journal*, which is the leading paper of the county, that one family—the Lowndes—has been connected with it, in succession, for nearly a century, taking the principal part in its management. The late Mr. Jonathan Lowndes, son of the first of that name who was connected with the paper, spent the long period of 63 years in the service of the proprietors, and since his death, in 1867, at the age of 77, his eldest son, Mr. Jonathan William Lowndes, has had the entire management.

H. E.

TRAINING FOR JOURNALISM.

By JOHN WISKER.

[Being the third of a series of papers read after dinner at a meeting of journalists in London, May 8th, 1869, and now printed by permission of the writers.*]

MY remarks will have regard exclusively to the junior grades of the newspaper profession, reporters, and sub-editors—especially the former, as constituting by far the largest class of newspaper men. I do not consider it necessary to say much as to the desirability of giving journalism a professional status. The avocation is at present in a very anomalous position; strictly speaking, it is neither a trade nor a profession; it draws its recruits from no regular source, it prescribes no period of probation, it has no standard of proficiency. Almost all trades and professions have, as it were, a regular constitution. Nobody can enter them without going through a certain course—hospital walking, dinner eating, or what not; and though these stipulations are by no means a guarantee of practical proficiency in any calling, it is fair to admit that they prevent infinite quackery and mischief. Journalism, on the other hand, depends chiefly upon chance for its recruits. Men enter upon it, either because they have failed in other walks of life, or because they hope that journalism may be more profitable than the business they first chose. Journalism is comparatively a new pursuit, and it has not yet taken its proper status. What is required is a proper *alimentary* system, which will elevate it to the dignity of a profession, give it a local habitation, and lessen the present difficulty of finding recruits, and of teaching them their business.

I may presume, therefore, that in respect of the desirability of a system of training my position will pass unchallenged. The question whether a system of training is possible does, I confess, present much more difficulty. The ordinary mode of learning in these cases is by an apprenticeship, but I much fear that an apprenticeship, in the ordinary acceptance of the term, will not meet the case of journalism. I have met with youths apprenticed as reporters, a good many, in fact, but these curiosities do not appear to be very common in the better class of offices. The first paper I was on owned a phenomenon in the shape of a youth who, having conceived the idea that newspaper literature on a third-class weekly newspaper was a desirable career, had entered on the road to the temple of learning. To his astonishment he was first put through a searching course of paper delivering, parcel tying, machine flying, fire lighting, and office sweeping. Nobody was for a moment inclined to doubt the soundness of this discipline, but the lad seemed to have his doubts as to its bearing on the art of journalism. He was informed, however, that he was too young to commence paragraph writing. His first business was to learn the art of growing old. Before he could be admitted to the deep tragedy of reporting he must do a little in the general utility line. And here is the great difficulty of this question. If a lad be apprenticed as a carpenter, his early blunders injure only his master and his tools; but in the case of most intellectual pursuits the public have to bear the cost of the gross experiments. For instance, national schools are supplied with masters and mistresses on the pupil teacher system, boys and girls being trained as teachers during a period of five years, commencing at the age of 18. A very high opinion of this arrangement is held by school inspectors, but I have a very low opinion of it. It seems to be overlooked that whilst the pupil teacher is learning his business he inflicts a great deal of bad, and often very injurious instruction, intellectual and moral, upon a large number of children. In the case of the newspaper novice the result would be similar. No amount of surveillance could prevent a learner from making a *corpus vile* of the public until he obtained some proficiency. I am by no means disposed to assert that nothing of this kind occurs at present, but perhaps I am not flattering the profession that it is not so common as it would be if much reporting were done by young apprentices. It is a further objection to the apprentice system that the better class of offices—those I mean that do not require fire lighting and floor scrubbing—will not be troubled with the instruction of youths.

I have called Journalism a profession, for want of a better name

* See NEWSPAPER PRESS, No 31, p. 134, and No. 33, p. 172.

and I believe we can attain a satisfactory result only by regarding it as a profession, and not as a trade. We shall not estimate its merits by elevating it to this dignity; for in point of difficulty, and in respect of the high attainments required for success, it will bear comparison with any. A system of training, to be successful, must commence, as in the case of law and medicine, at a comparatively advanced age. The limit should not be fixed too far in advance; for instances are not uncommon where youths beginning about 17 have attained great skill in shorthand writing, and fair facility in composition by the age of 20. My system of training would, therefore, commence about 17. In order to carry out efficient arrangements, it would be necessary to have some concurrence amongst newspaper proprietors, or, at all events, amongst a certain number. Without combination I can see no means of advancing beyond the present state of things. The change in the telegraph management, and the establishment of the Press Association, will bring about such intercourse amongst newspaper proprietors, that this combination will be easy for the future. Let, therefore, a certain number of proprietors agree that they will do what they can for newspaper training. Each year inquiries might be made among these for the purpose of inquiring who could and who could not receive a pupil. Suppose it was ascertained that there were ten vacancies, let each of the proprietors included in the combination or association have a right to nominate a candidate for these vacancies, and let the final choice depend upon competition. Competitive examinations are beginning to be so looked upon as a panacea for all imaginable grievances, that some ridicule generally awaits any fresh proposition of the kind. But the question is not whether competitive examinations are carried too far, but whether the undoubted advantages to be derived from them in some cases will be secured in the case of journalism. I think the experiment might fairly be made. In the first place, candidates would be subjected to the preliminary test of nomination. The various proprietors would exercise their discrimination as to the general fitness of the aspirant for newspaper life; whilst on the other hand, if any proprietors were led to nominate a favourite who had no just claim, the examination test would at once dispose of him. In the second place, the examination should be devised especially for newspaper requirements. I know of no ordeal now in existence which would answer the purpose. The great test subject would be English prose composition; to this might be added English Constitutional history, but with special reference to the last century and half—it is noticeable that most university examinations omit the last century and half—and any other subject which might be deemed necessary. It would not be essential that the candidates should all be brought together for this purpose. An examiner might be chosen in London; he should draw questions to be sent to each nominator, and the candidate should write his answer either in the presence of the nominator, proprietor, or some other responsible person. The answers should be sent back to the examiner, who would determine who were successful. The obvious objection to this plan is that it would infringe upon the independence of proprietors in the choice of their staff. Well, nobody would be compelled to signify his want of a pupil; though, if he did so declare a vacancy, he ought certainly to accept the successful competitor. More than this, the "independence" of provincial newspaper proprietors in the choice of their junior reporters is precisely what they do not want. At present there is great difficulty, I believe, in finding suitable assistants; either all the staff must be experienced, and paid full rates, or boys must be taken as apprentices. Most proprietors, I believe, would find it a great advantage to be furnished with a decent lad of a useful age, and of fair attainments, who would begin active work at once. Such a pupil would serve for, say, two years and a half, or three years, at nominal rates, and would thus save considerable cost; whilst in a short time he would be of very substantial assistance. As reporting is most required in the provinces, and as shorthand writing requires more time than any other item of the journalists' art, there would be no objection to keeping the pupil at reporting the whole of the time. He could not have better training, provided always that he was allowed to take a hand in sub-editing now and then. At the end of his time the association might grant him a diploma of competency. The profession would then lie before him, and he must take his chance along with the rest.

CHANGES AHEAD.

BUT little over fourteen years have elapsed since the newspaper Press of England was unfettered, and now it may be said to be free. The act which Mr. Ayrton was instrumental in passing during the last session of Parliament has removed the remnants of those old laws which were passed to "gag" the free expression of opinion on the part of the people, or to render the leaders of opinion amenable to a special law of pains and penalties. With that bill disappears the vexed question of our courts of law as to "What is a newspaper?" With it disappear the sureties and bonds of the newspaper proprietors. With it every newspaper loses a State subscriber in the Stamp Office, and though newspapers are thus disestablished, they are endowed with freedom. The last of the State leading strings is cut away, and newspapers claim and receive only the protection of the common law of the land. They are amenable as before to the law of libel, but the conductors are not called upon to give sureties for their good behaviour, or to back their commercial reputation with two "good men and true" to be responsible for any damages and costs. Indeed, this part of the old law was so generally evaded that, though the Provincial Newspaper Society made registration a test of membership, it must have struck many of the members as peculiarly and essentially absurd. If it did not do so, that body of proprietors will have to amend their rules at once. At present the Stamp Office continues to impress the red stamp, and will doubtless supply any fresh newspaper with die and labour on payment of their old fee. But this last remaining stamp of privilege is doomed.

Why should newspapers have a right of retransmission through the post?

This question will be discussed with vehemence during the next session of Parliament. In remote country districts this privilege is doubtless valuable and frequently used, and newspaper proprietors have very different views on the subject. The daily newspaper proprietors feel that the penny stamp as at present used is almost prohibitory. It equals the whole cost of the paper, and therefore they receive no benefit whatever from it. They prefer to send what few copies they post under the book-parcel regulations. They are tempted to do this by the difficulty of checking the issue of the red stamps, and by the expense of the stamping as well as by the more just imposition of the postage by weight, which is not balanced by the privilege of retransmission, as far as the daily newspaper is concerned. Hence the proprietors of daily newspapers are careless about the privilege of retransmission, and are only anxious for a halfpenny affixed stamp. In considering this question, it must be borne in mind that a large number of the old newspapers have still extensive stamped circulations. They are not unnaturally proud of still keeping up their ancient prestige, and they are jealous of any change that will materially interfere with their position. They are not so anxious to keep the privilege of retransmission, as they are to secure an uniform rate of charge for single newspapers. They will fight long and strenuously against there being any restriction of weight or size for the halfpenny stamp. They demand that the stamp shall frank a *single newspaper only*. There must not be two or three small newspapers sent for the one stamp. This, after all, is puerile, and if passed into law in 1870, will certainly be amended ere many years have passed, for it would be an immense boon to perhaps two hundred newspapers, and an injustice to the remaining thousand. Newspaper proprietors should take a higher ground. As far as we are aware, there has been no discussion as to the manner in which this affixed stamp is to be used; and those newspapers who now figure so highly in the stamp returns would do well to consider how far they can secure the present government and official return of their stamped circulation. The *Times* does not forego the complacent publication of the official figures when they are published, and the example is catching amongst the country newspapers, although they are careful to explain that it only represents a fraction of their large unstamped sale. The obliteration of the stamps at the post office will also have to be considered, and some arrangement made to facilitate the posting. At present, the principal sorting is done in the newspaper offices, and the packets tied up in

postal districts, and frequently it is a matter of moment to "save the post." Unless the stamps are obliterated at the point of delivery, it is obvious that the sorting will have to be done in the post office, and that the papers must be posted earlier, to enable them to be stamped in time for the mails. The post office authorities will doubtless be glad to impress the "franks" with the stamp and name of the paper, either by a special or general die, for those newspapers who care to go to the trouble of sending the paper and of paying the expense of the die. A return can then be had of the stamps issued as at present, and some arrangements will doubtless be made to obliterate the stamp at the place of delivery. The delivery of the newspapers in the same town where they are posted will be generally acceptable; and, indeed, where there is no retransmission, could hardly be denied.

The greatest change of all is that of the telegraph system. The Government have conceded a great point to the newspapers; and, though they have a general controlling power, and could doubtless stop, in times of danger, news of a dangerous character, they would, as a general rule, have no motive for doing so. We shall speedily find special wires stretching from London to the great centres of the daily newspapers, and a reporter in every town ready to transmit to head-quarters any event that may transpire. The days of penny-a-lining will be over, to a great extent, in the provinces. The new Press Association have begun to make their arrangements, and, doubtless, the London papers will not be behindhand. Special news will doubtless be sent as before, but the miscellaneous items of general intelligence will be sent from a common source. We hear that Mr. John Lovell, now attached to Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin's literary staff, and formerly sub-editor of the *Birmingham Daily Post*, is appointed the manager of the Press Association at 112, Strand, London, and the necessary arrangements will soon be made to commence operations whenever the post office authorities are ready to begin their work.

BOURGOIS.

MEETING OF NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS.

A sudden meeting of newspaper proprietors was held in London on the 18th of August. They met to consider two or three important questions affecting their interests and position. In the first place they had to consider the position they were placed in by the operation of the new law abolishing the old restrictions, and to see Mr. Ayrton, the Secretary to the Treasury, thereon. They evidently did not understand the copyright law and their new position now the old restrictions were abolished. There was an impression abroad that newspapers were unprotected—that their titles and position could be assumed by any unprincipled adventurer; and besides, there was a feeling that Messrs. Smith and Son had sufficient monopolies without having the monopoly of being the medium between the whole of the newspaper Press and the British Museum. Hitherto the Government had paid for the copies supplied to the British Museum, and now they had made no provision to continue that payment.

Mr. Ayrton told the deputation that they were protected by the common law of the land against any piracy of their title, and indeed the recent case of the *Hertfordshire Express* had told them that; but we do not learn that he promised to pay for the copies to be sent to the Museum.

The newspaper proprietors had another grievance. They had to consider the decision of the Lord Chancellor not to place a newspaper proprietor at Darlington on the commission of the peace. A better case they could not have had. Nothing could be brought against Mr. Sparkes but the fact that he was the proprietor of the *Darlington Times* and opposed to the Quaker influence in that rising town. But this was hardly sufficient to account for this otherwise unaccountable refusal. No doubt there will be many different opinions on the justice or otherwise of the Chancellor's decision, though the newspaper proprietors who met in London were in one mind on the subject.

It would appear that the position of the newspaper man is undergoing a radical change. We know proprietors of provincial newspapers who from principle refuse to take any public appointment or office which they think would interfere in any way with the thorough independence of their newspaper. They refuse to fetter the position of their writers by bringing them into collision

with what might be considered their personal feelings and the public good, but this feeling one would think would promote a judicial tone of mind, which is much wanted on the magisterial bench. There is no bar to a newspaper proprietor being a member of Parliament, and, indeed, there are several in Parliament at the present time. Why an objection should be taken to one of them being put on the commission of peace is beyond comprehension, unless Lord Hatherly wishes to make a distinction between the men of capital and the men of mind in the newspaper Press. Probably Mr. Sparkes may be a man of great mental capacity, as he is of wealth, but there has grown up a desire to keep a newspaper for the power and position it confers. Sometimes, as in Mr. Whalley's case, the experiment is not successful. At Darlington it appears to be eminently so in a commercial sense, if not in a political one. The ban against brewers and distillers is one thing, but newspaper proprietors can hardly be placed in the same category with any degree of consistency. We, at all events, fail to see the consistency of the argument or the sequence; and even if it were so, the rule should apply to all parts of the United Kingdom. The active-minded and energetic journalist in England has hitherto had a good deal of quiet power; but as Hepworth Dixon pointed out at Liverpool, he has had but little of the fruits which ought to flow therefrom. As a class, there has been hitherto a broad distinction between the professional journalist and the proprietor of the newspaper. They have seldom been combined; but whenever that combination has taken place, it has been with the best effect. In the future there will probably be more of this intimate connection between the journalist and the profits to be derived from his labour; for we are not amongst those who think that literary ability is permanently divorced from commercial success.

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.

THE half-yearly general meeting of the members of this fund was held at the office, Cecil-street, Strand, on Saturday, July 31, the Right Hon. Lord Houghton, the president, in the chair. The report of the committee for the past half-year congratulated the members on the general progress of the fund. The annual dinner, it stated, took place at Willis's Rooms, on the 5th of June. Mr. Reverdy Johnson, then minister of the United States in this country, had consented to preside; when, at the last moment, he was compelled to return to Washington. In these circumstances Lord Houghton, with the liberality which has characterised his connection with the institution from its establishment, promptly acquiesced in the request to take the chair. The invested capital remains at £4,422 11s. 7d., but it is proposed to invest a further sum of £500. Since the supplementary report to the 31st of December last four grants have been made to members, amounting in the whole to £90, which makes the total so applied for the year £260, the recipients being 11 in number. The roll-book of the society comprises 246 members, of whom 171 are resident in London, and the remaining 75 in the country. The number of life members is now 62. Considering that this institution is based upon the principles of benevolence and providence combined; that it embraces the newspaper profession throughout the kingdom; that it has already during its brief career effected a large amount of good, and that its ability to benefit its members and their families is constantly increasing, the committee feel bound to record, with regret, that there has been no augmentation in the number of members in the course of the last half-year.

On the motion of Mr. J. H. Doyle, seconded by Mr. James Sharp (Leicester), the report was unanimously adopted.

The treasurer, six retiring members of the committee, and the auditors, were re-elected, and the rules were amended to extend the benefits of the institution to newspaper proprietors.

On the motion of Mr. Mould, seconded by Mr. Gruneisen, a vote of thanks was passed to Lord Houghton as president.

The noble Lord, in responding to the compliment, said it gave him great pleasure to use his best endeavours in promoting the prosperity of an institution in which, from the first, he had taken a deep interest. In the lowest or purely financial point of view, it was an insurance society, in which every man who had the smallest means at his disposal might have a beneficial interest far beyond that which any ordinary insurance society could give him.

Moreover, it was a wealthy body in proportion to the demands made upon its resources, and it was likely every year to become more and more so by continued investments in the funds and other securities. It appeared to him, however, that there was something defective in the way in which the society was understood and appreciated by the mass of the profession. He could not but think that if the great advantage of joining the institution, the certainty that it could not involve any loss, and that if, through adverse circumstances, they wanted their money they might be sure of drawing it out again, were placed before them in a plain way the number of members would enormously increase. He said that because he did not understand the motive which was acting in the other direction. There was certainly no great enthusiasm manifested to join the society, and there was a difficulty in getting up enthusiasm among the profession, but it was a peculiarity in this society that while there was immense readiness on the part of the public, not only to contribute to its funds, but in many cases, at considerable sacrifice, to appear at its annual meetings, yet this did not seem to be appreciated as it deserved. He hoped, then, that before they met again next year they might see an enlargement of the institution in some degree commensurate with its utility and value.

On the motion of Mr. Fry, seconded by Mr. Cooke,

The thanks of the meeting were also voted to the vice-president, committee, and officers, and the proceedings terminated.

DEFOE AS A JOURNALIST.

(From the *North Londoner*.)

THE discovery in 1864 of six letters written by Defoe to Charles De la Faye, Esq., of the Secretary of State's Office, and preserved in the State Paper Office, has removed a good deal of lustre from Defoe's character. These letters in Defoe's handwriting, and of unquestionable authenticity, prove that in 1718 he was engaged by the Whig Government to exercise a species of secret influence over the high Tory publication called *Mist's Weekly Journal*, as well as another periodical of the same stamp, called *Dormer's News Letter*. This he did by introducing himself to the proprietors of those journals, representing that he was under the displeasure of the Government (as in fact he had been some time before), and so obtaining the management of the papers, ostensibly with a view to advocating Tory principles, but really with the design, as he expresses it, of "taking the string out" of the comments and paragraphs of news, amusing the party, preventing their setting up more violent organs, and "disabling" and "enervating" the journals in question, "so as to do no mischief, or give any offence to the Government." He also himself commenced, and carried on for several years a monthly review called *Mercurius Politicus*, which, by a mild expression of Tory, or what we should now call Conservative, principles, still further "amused" the bamboozled party, and prevented the starting of independent journals. Mr. Mist, the proprietor of the *Weekly Journal*, seems to have had at first no idea of the purposes to which his periodical was being put. Defoe, whenever he suppressed anything very strong against the Whigs, told him that he did so to keep the concern clear of a prosecution; but it would seem that ultimately Mist himself came into the plot, and, upon the Government foregoing a prosecuting for some piece of sedition which had obtained insertion despite of Defoe's vigilance, undertook to act secretly in favour of the Government. The *Journal* had been set up in the Pretender's interests, and one part of Defoe's work was not only to suppress the treasonable matter which thus came into his possession, but to hand it over to the ministers. The connexion between Defoe and Mist continued with a brief interruption until July, 1720, when the former refused to be further responsible for the general conduct of the paper, though he contributed to its pages for some time longer.

THE "EDINBURGH COURANT."—On Aug. 7 the members and friends of this establishment paid a visit to Peebles, to celebrate their annual holiday; the men were accompanied by their wives and female friends. They had a dancing party in the ruins of Neidpath Castle, and then adjourned to the Crown Hotel, where the remainder of the day was pleasantly spent.

THE GROWTH OF JOURNALS IN AMERICA.

(From the *Anglo-American Times*.)

THE *New York Journal of Commerce* lately discussed the establishment of daily newspapers in New York, showing the reasons why so many start and fail. The true cause is, we think, the same in New York as in London, where there already exist organs ably representing every party and shade of opinion. To start a new journal is to enter into competition with these, the ground being occupied wherever the projectors may turn. Hence the necessity for an enormous capital to start a newspaper equal to those already worked by time, talent, and money, into efficiency, and to keep that paper afloat till it has become self-supporting; hence, too, the fifty-five failures in New York city within the third of a century. It has been tried in vain again and again in London, where some of the efforts were so ridiculous that the projectors, to escape the universal belief in their folly, ought to tell the secret history of the attempt. Such, for instance, was *The Day*; such, too, was *The Evening Mercury*, *The Little Times*, and many other failures. The outlay to set up a morning paper is far beyond that required for an evening paper; therefore the small failures are in the afternoon, the great failures before breakfast. In a rapidly rising American town an enterprising printer may on slender material successfully establish a daily paper, but the reason of his success lies in the unoccupied field. Where there is no opposition there is no better procurable, and the citizens accept and support what they can get. The little sheet, with its "snippets" articles, and big sensational headings sprawled over the paper, grows with population, and has soon to face a rival. In the course of time the community becomes a great city, and the chances are that the little sheet which first made its appearance there, has expanded into a leading organ, covering pages with well-written articles and reviews, with telegrams and special reports. Let any one then attempt "to run" a daily paper in the same city, and, unless heavily backed, the failure of the enterprise will be quick and disastrous, the money expended utterly lost. The *Journal of Commerce* is then within the truth in saying that to maintain a daily in New York, such as would have the least chance of surviving the struggle, would require an expenditure of nearly 1,000 dols. per diem; and to begin with any hope of success the capital ought to be at the least from a half to three-quarters of a million of dollars. Then good judgment must be shown in the expenditure, boldness, and sagacity, while if there be a weakness or want of tact developed at any stage, and without favouring circumstances, no outlay can make the organ profitable. Rendered into English money, what the New York paper states, is that no person without the highest capacity for the work and lucky, could be successful in establishing a daily paper in that city with £125,000 to expend on the task; and those who know what the papers are against which he would have to compete are aware that there is no exaggeration in the estimate.

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER.—On July 24, Mr. Cowie, the senior sub-editor of the *Edinburgh Courier*, was entertained by a number of his Press friends at a dinner in the Café Royal, on the occasion of his leaving Edinburgh to join the staff of the *Manchester Examiner*. Mr. Wallace, of the *Courant*, occupied the chair, and Mr. Gillers, of the *Daily Review*, was croupier.

NEWSPAPER COMPETITION.—Nothing tends to demoralize journalism so much as an undue competition, particularly in small places, and this has greatly injured the provincial Press of America. The metropolitan papers can take care of themselves, for they are almost unapproachable, and beyond the reach of competitors, but among the small fry the case differs. Nor can it be contended that the *Echo* would have done any good to any one if in forcing the *Pall Mall Gazette* down to a penny, it had run that paper into an inferior organ to what it had been at twopence; but if it pays the proprietors of the *Pall Mall* to supply a paper at a penny, kept up to the mark of the twopenny issue, the public will have benefited. Further, they cannot, for these papers are trespassing on the very borders of what it is possible to do, and any further competition must only end disastrously to all, while it may be doubted if the present rate can be maintained.—*Anglo-American Times*.

Correspondence.

THE LATE WILLIAM JERDAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

DEAR SIR,—Had William Jerdan died thirty years ago, when, although verging on sixty years, he was still a power in the literary world, something more than a few paragraphs would have been required to chronicle the event. But he had outlived his fame. Many of the present generation know little of the once potent editor of the *Literary Gazette* (for his voluminous autobiography and reminiscences, if not published, as I fancy, by subscription, had, I fear, but a limited sale), and many of his contemporaries—myself among the number, until I read the paragraph which appeared in a recent number of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*—were doubtful whether he still survived.

It must be admitted that the fortunes of the *Literary Gazette* waned with the rise of the *Athenæum*, and rapidly drooped when Jerdan left it. Nine years ago, the late Mr. Bradbury offered me the copyright for fifty pounds; or, as I was then purchasing another paper of him which still survives, offered to "throw in" the *Gazette* at a still lower figure; but it was out of my special line at that time, and it soon after fell to the ground, after an existence of some five-and-forty years. It was established in January, 1817.

Your paragraph induced me to find out Jerdan (whom I had previously supposed to be dead), and in a reply which I received from him only a short time before his death, he says, "My quiet retreat here" (Bushey Heath), "for a dozen of years, has kept me in ignorance of the movements of the literary world, though a good many papers are sent to enliven my monotony." These words from the literary veteran read pathetically now. Still more painfully significant is the sentence, which I take from one of his latest contributions to periodical literature, as recent as June last, when, quoting a letter from his friend Mudford, which closes with the words, "You talk of old times. I sometimes wish they could return, that I could make a better use of them than I did when I had them; for then I should not have to work quite so hard as I am working to keep the wolf from the door. What say you? Would you like the same opportunity to be presented to you?" Jerdan says of this letter, it "concludes with a home lesson." With the government pension of a hundred a year, and, I believe, some private resources, the wolf was not literally at Jerdan's door; but I fear it must be taken as rather painfully suggestive that he was not so happily circumstanced as he ought to have been after so long a life of literary work, that we find him at the great age of eighty-eight working himself to "exhaustion," as you state in your last number, in articles for the periodical Press.

I have trespassed too far upon your space, I fear; but, with your permission, I should like to say a few more words about William Jerdan in your next issue. Faithfully yours, A. A.

THE "BLOT" ON AMERICAN JOURNALISM.—These articles, as a rule, are shorter than those of the London papers, but they are often pithy, and nearly always forcibly written. Some are extremely amusing, more humorous than anything in comic journals; but others show the chief blot on American journalism, personalities. The *World* reproduces the libel of another paper that the *Tribune's* editor had gone to Albany in the Vanderbilt interest to straighten out a crooked Senator, whereon H. G. replies that the print in question is one with little circulation and less character, and that once for all he desired to state that the author of the paragraph is an habitual and self-proclaimed liar, whereon Mr. Hastings, the editor aimed at, retorts with something a little stronger than the *tu quoque*. Again—"Second-rate journals which feel a necessity for finding some different Republican ground to stand on from that occupied by the *Tribune*, as an excuse for their existence, are welcome to whatever small pother they can raise over these declarations. . . . The snarls of two or three of them at the *Tribune's* may pass without notice—every creature must enjoy himself after his kind."—*Anglo-American Times*.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, August 27.

The great event of the month is the general amnesty accorded for all political and Press offences, and published on the 15th inst. in honour of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of the First Napoleon of that ilk. Although some uncertain rumours had leaked out a day or two previously, it was considered to be too good news to be true, and obtained but little credit, so that the Parisians generally were taken by surprise when they found it in the *Journal Officiel*. Strange to say, the individual most deeply interested of any in the amnesty declines to profit by the indulgence of the Emperor; this is M. Henri de Rochefort, condemned to three years' imprisonment and payment of a fine of 10,000*fr.* It is true that he managed to make his escape before the trial, and is now residing at Brussels, where he continues to publish his *Cloche*; but though he was convicted in *contumaciam*, if he declines to accept the amnesty, he can never return to his native country.

To show your readers how things are managed in France, I may mention that previous to the publication of the amnesty the two Liberal journals *Rappel* and *Réveil* were under a ban and their sale was not permitted in the streets; but since then their situation does not appear to have changed. A few days ago a gentleman went into one of the kiosks on the Boulevards and asked for a copy of both the above-mentioned papers. The reply was that their sale in the streets was prohibited. "Yes, I know; but that was before the publication of the amnesty." With a look of pity at the gentleman's ignorance, the lady of the kiosk vouchsafed to enlighten him by saying, "You appear not to be aware that the prohibition of the sale of journals in the streets is an affair belonging to the administrative authorities. The amnesty applies only to persons condemned for offences of the Press, and it is the Prefect of Police who forbids the sale, and by this prohibition we are great losers." "But the Emperor surely does not know of this and would not sanction it?" "It is no business at all of the Emperor."

But it was high time that some steps should be taken to mitigate the arbitrary and obnoxious conduct of the authorities, which sooner or later must have been attended with serious consequences. Only five days before the publication of the amnesty, the *Siècle* of the 10th inst. makes use of the following incendiary language:—"More than two months ago M. Charles Quentin, editor of the *Réveil*, was forcibly torn away from his family, friends, and literary avocations, and imprisoned in the Mazas, where, after two months of solitary confinement, he has not yet even undergone an examination. The Press was indignant at this treatment of their colleague, and demanded his liberation or trial. Of no avail; M. Quentin is still waiting to be informed what crime he has committed to be thus treated as a common malefactor and separated from society. It may be mentioned that M. Quentin is a gentleman well known, able to give bail to any amount, and of a most punctilious character, considering it a point of honour to answer any charge brought against him. France is at present the only country in Europe where a man can be thrown into prison and kept there for two months without telling him the reason. That such despising the personal liberty of the subject eighty years after the storming of the Bastille and abolition of the *lettres-de-cachet* is very humbling to our pride as Frenchmen, who, however, are accustomed to see such a course pursued by every successive government. The authorities rely on the indifference of the people, which, however, is only apparent and superficial. But they feel deeply the indignity imposed on them, and keep a keen and watchful eye on all that is going on; and the time will come, and is perhaps not far off, when they will require a strict account, and even take the law into their own hands to set things square, and obtain the redress that is their due."

During the late disturbances, M. Laferrière, one of the editors of the *Rappel*, was arrested in the streets and thrown into prison, but liberated a few days afterwards. He then instituted legal proceedings against the authorities for false imprisonment, claiming 10,000*fr.* damages from the Prefect of Police, 5,000*fr.* from the Police Commissary Simonneau, and a similar sum from M. Brandell,

the governor of the prison of Mazas, where he was illegally confined. But he had better not have brought his action, for the Court was indignant at such a course of proceeding, and has condemned him to one month's imprisonment and a fine of 200f. Down to the date of the amnesty, the *Rappel* was one of the papers that had suffered most from the rigour of the Press law, having been condemned at various times to altogether nine months' imprisonment, and fines amounting in the aggregate to 14,437f. A report has been circulated that a fusion is about to take place between the *Rappel* and the *Réveil*, but I have reason to believe that it is entirely without foundation.

The lively weekly, called *La vie Parisienne*, has been seized for publishing an article entitled "*La Charmante Princesse*," giving a description of the eccentricities of the Princess Metternich.

In the lately published Austrian "Red Book" there is a dispatch from Prince Metternich, indignantly repudiating the complaint made against him of having influenced an organ of the Parisian Press to anti-Prussian polemics. It has, therefore, caused some surprise to learn that M. Gustave de St. Valoy, the chief editor of the anti-Prussian *Patrie*, has just received, through the medium of the Austrian Embassy at Paris, the decoration of a Knight of the Austrian Order of the Iron Crown.

M. Georges Naquet, editor of the Marseilles *Peuple*, has had a second duel with M. Joussemet, and after wounding his adversary slightly in the arm, received himself a thrust in the chest, which was considered by the surgeon in attendance to be of such a serious nature that he would not allow the duel to proceed any further.

The Paris journalists have founded a new institution of a philanthropic nature, the object being the relief of sick colleagues, a pension fund for their widows, and re-engagement of such as are out of office. The President is M. Monchaux, one of the editors of the *Réveil*.

A new paper has been started, under the title of *Le Parlement*, ostensibly by Gregoire Ganasco, but understood to be really the property of M. Matthieu and M. Lacase.

AVANT-COURIER.

On the 5th ult. a duel took place between M. Paul de Cassagnac, of the *Pays*, and M. Gustave Flourens, and the *Figaro* states that the latter was wounded three times, the last wound he received being a very serious one.

M. Millet, the manager, and M. Ducuing, one of the editors of the *Journal Universel*, were on the 6th ult. condemned, the former to one month's imprisonment, and to a fine of 500f., and the latter to two months' imprisonment.

A duel with pistols was fought at Marseilles on the 9th ult., between M. de la Ponterie, political director of the *Paris* newspaper, and M. Gustave Naquet, chief editor of the *Peuple*, of Marseilles. The two adversaries were placed at fifteen paces; one shot was exchanged, but without effect.

M. Pie, chief editor of the *Etendard*, who was charged with complicity in the frauds of M. Tailfer, cashier of the Union Assurance Company, has been found guilty, and sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

L'Opinion Nationale of the 24th August, in an article on the new Press Law of France, raises objection to the stamp, adding: The Emperor said very justly one day that in a country of universal suffrage every citizen ought to know how to read and write. But it is not sufficient for the citizen to know how to read; he must be able to read. And how is he to read if newspapers and pamphlets, which ought to be his daily food, are weighed down by an exorbitant tax, and consequently are very dear, too dear for the poor and ignorant, those who most want to read and instruct themselves. Let the stamp-tax then, abolished long ago by aristocratic England, no longer subsist in democratic France!

Nine out of every ten American newspapers sent to France are, it is said, confiscated in the French Post-Office.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, August 26.

A meeting of the heads of printing establishments, convened by Herr J. Schneider, of Mannheim, was held at Mayence on the 15th inst. About eighty firms were represented, the greater part being South Germans, though there was a large attendance from Berlin, Leipzig, and Hamburg. It was remarked, however, with regret that some of the principal houses, such as Cotta, Brock-

haus, and Weber, were conspicuous by their absence. Herr Schneider, who was voted to take the chair, distributed copies of the draft of his proposal for forming an union of German printing-house proprietors, for the object of elevating the artistic and commercial importance of the trade in general, and specially for fixing certain regulations between the principals and their workmen. As reporters of the Press were not admitted to the meeting, the particulars that transpired were very meagre and unsatisfactory. A petition from the journeymen printers, to be represented by a deputation from their own body, was also refused. Sannemann, a master printer at Frankfort, moved that the representatives of the Press, as well as the public, be admitted; but the motion being lost, he, with several other master printers from Darmstadt, Wiesbaden, and Heidelberg, entered a protest against such illiberal conduct, and they all left the room.

The Senate of Lübeck has transmitted the draft of a new Press law to the Bürgerschaft for their consent and approval. The preamble states, that in consequence of the new law for the regulation of trades lately passed by the Federal Parliament, and its influence on the Press and the book trade, some alterations in the existing regulations are absolutely required to abolish the restrictions to which the Press is still subjected. The draft of the new law is short, containing only nine sections relating to the following subjects:—1. The obligation to publish the name of the publisher and printer of every work proceeding from the Press, including newspapers and periodicals; 2, the responsibility of the editor of a journal; 3, The obligation of the editor to publish the official proclamations of the authorities; 4, The obligation to publish replies to personal attacks, and the publication, free of charge, of the judgments of law courts in Press prosecutions; 5, The obligation to send in a copy of every work, newspaper, and periodical to the Municipal State Library; 6, Fines for contravention of any of the foregoing sections; 7, Contraventions of the Press laws to be punished according to the stipulations of the criminal code; 8, Suppression and destruction of printed matter on account of its criminal contents permitted, even when the punishment of the author cannot be accomplished; and 9, All former laws and enactments interfering with the new law are repealed and abrogated. The standing committee for affairs of the Press was ordered to examine the draft, and report on it to the Bürgerschaft.

The editor of the *Zeitung für die Grafschaft Mannsfeldt*, a journal published at Eisleben, has been convicted of libelling Pastor Kottmeier, the clergyman of the parish, and ridiculing the Christian religion in articles written by him, and condemned in consequence to six months' imprisonment and loss of his concession as a printer.

Preceptor Dr. Bock, editor of the *Schleswig-Holsteinsche Schulzeitung*, accused of contravention of the Press law and brought to trial, was acquitted by the Provincial Court at Itzehoe.

The *Norddeutsches Wochenblatt*, established a few months ago at Gera, as the representative of the Society for the improvement of the working classes, has, under the able editorship of Herr Carl Wartenburg, become a powerful organ of the national party.

Annalen der Typographie is the title of a new illustrated weekly, published by Carl B. Lorok, of Leipzig. Its special interest for printers has already secured for it a large circulation.

At Leipzig an institution has been founded by the Association of Printers for the practical education of compositors and printers, which has met with much success, for, though only opened on the 27th of May, it boasts already of above 130 scholars.

The *Mecklenburger Tagesblatt*, a daily paper published at Schwerin, and the organ of the feudal, or aristocratic, party in Mecklenburg, has just ended its brief career of six months.

At Leipzig the specimen copy of a new class journal, called the *Bauhütte*, has been sent out, and will appear regularly on the 1st of September. It professes to be the organ of the German builders and masons.

The prospectus has been circulated in this city of a projected new weekly pedagogical journal, to be called *Die Schule*, and it is proposed to raise the necessary funds in shares, and let Hamburg be the seat of the management, where so lively an interest is taken in all affairs relating to education.

At Kiel some alterations are reported in the state of the local Press, the principal journal there—the *Kieler Wochenblatt*—having undergone a change of proprietorship. Under its original name

the *Kieler Correspondenzblatt*, it was the only political journal published there till 1863, when a competitor appeared, called the *Kieler Zeitung*, which met with such success that the profits of the former dwindled away, till at last there was a deficit. The publisher of the *Kieler Zeitung*, the bookseller, Herr Mohr, to get rid of his rival, has now taken a lease of the *Wochenblatt* for five years, paying the proprietors 1,600 marks currency annually, so that it is now virtually under his management; but the editor, though paid by him, is to be appointed by the proprietors. As, however, they have not hitherto been able to find one to their liking, they have advertised that the post is vacant. S.

The celebrated German poet, Ferdinand Freiligrath, has been offered the position of editor of the *Neue Freie Presse*.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, August 25.

At the preliminary meeting of the committee held at Leipzig on the 9th of May last, it was resolved, as stated in a letter from your Hamburg correspondent, that the Fourth Congress of German journalists should be held in this city at the end of July. A local committee of gentlemen connected with the Press here was appointed to receive and welcome their German colleagues, and do the honours to such as were strangers to this capital, the chairman being Dr. Wittelsböfer, president of the club of journalists, called the "Concordia." The Congress was numerously attended, upwards of eighty German newspapers being represented either by their editors, proprietors, or managers, their visit being greatly facilitated by the courtesy and liberality of the several railway companies, who had either granted free tickets both ways, or a free return ticket. Among the former were all the Austrian, and the following seven German companies:—The Breslau and Freiburg, the Taunus, the Neisse and Brieg, the Oder right bank, the East of Prussia (South Branch), the Aachen and Maastricht, the Magdeburg and Cöthen, and the Homburg and Frankfurt, whilst the Berlin and Hamburg, the Altona and Kiel, and others in the North of Germany, gave free return tickets. On the evening of their arrival, a large party had assembled at the public rooms known as the *Blumensaal*, or "Flower Saloon," to receive and welcome the guests. Among the former were the Chancellor of the Empire, Count von Bismarck, and three other Ministers (Taaffe, Plener, and Giskra), the Municipal Council in full force with the Bürgermeister of Vienna at their head, the Civil Governor of the Province, the Director of the Police, the Procurator Fiscal—who was fearlessly surrounded by public writers of all shades and parties—and many artists, authors, and actors of both sexes. After supper four official toasts were drunk:—1. Dr. Kietke, of the *Berlin Vossische Zeitung*, to the health and prosperity of Austria and the Emperor; the Bürgermeister, Dr. Felder, to the freedom of the Press; and then succeeded others of a more personal nature. On the following day the first sitting of the Congress was held in a saloon of the Academy of Sciences, placed at their disposal by that eminent corporation. After the usual preliminary and formal business had been disposed of, a resolution was proposed by Dr. Steinitz, of the *Berliner Volkszeitung*, for altering the name from Congress to "Association of German Journalists;" but this met with much opposition on the ground that the legislation of several States prohibited belonging to foreign associations without express licence from the Governments, and it was eventually rejected in favour of an amendment brought forward by Dr. Lehmann, of the *Magazin für die Literatur des Auslandes*, to postpone the subject till the next Congress, and in the meantime to authorise the standing committee to draw up a set of resolutions, to be printed and sent to all the members. A report was then read "On intellectual property in reference to newspapers and periodicals," by Professor Dr. Carl Biedermann, of the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, and commented on by Dr. Friedländer, of the *Neue Freie Presse*, who showed that the Press in Austria was placed on a very different footing from that in the North of Germany, on which the report was based. He therefore moved a resolution to make it obligatory on all newspapers to publish the source of their information, and this gave rise to a lively discussion. Kietke was not content with the sole obligation of giving up the source from which a *feuilleton* was taken, but thought

the author had a right to claim a remuneration if it was reprinted in another paper, and this was seconded by Bucher, of the *Wiener Zeitung*. Maass, of the *Oesterreichischer Oekonomist*, spoke at some length on the subject of the German Press in America, and was of opinion it would be advantageous to the Germans settled there to read the emanations from educated men in the old country, whether the articles were pirated or not. After much debating the resolution, formulated by Dr. Friedländer as follows, was then put and carried: "1. The Congress ordains and declares that the reproduction of articles, facts, *feuilletons*, and other matter taken from other papers, is only admissible when the source whence derived be plainly indicated. 2. The Standing Committee is hereby authorised and requested to draw up the principles of the above declaration with respect to their bearing on the laws existing in the different States of Germany on the subject, and for that purpose to consult a legal adviser, and report on the same to the next congress."

In the sitting of the next day, Dr. Stoll of the *Berlin Gemeinde Zeitung* read an elaborate paper on the expediency of taking steps to ensure proper maintenance and provision for superannuated and worn-out journalists. Dr. Kietke pointed out that a knowledge of the practical experience gained by the Viennese "Concordia" would be of great value as a guide. Lecher, of the *Vienna Presse*, gave an account of what the "Concordia" had accomplished in this respect, and a resolution was passed requesting the standing committee to draw up a set of regulations for such an institution, and lay it before the next congress. Dr. Kuh, of Prague, then proposed a petition to Parliament for the abolition of the advertisement duty; but this was overruled as inadmissible, it being shown that the Congress was not called upon to interfere with affairs specifically relating to Austria, and that it was much more important to do something for the abolition of the stamp duty, which weighed so heavily on the Press in other States of Germany. This proposal found favour with the assembled journalists, and at the instance of Dr. Friedländer it was agreed to request the standing committee to draw up a memoir, embodying all their grievances with proposals for their mitigation, and present it to the next congress. This completed the business of the meeting. The next day was devoted to sight-seeing, and in the evening a splendid banquet was given to the guests, at which several of the ministers and other high dignitaries of the State were present. On the following day the whole party made an excursion by special train, liberally placed at their disposal by the directors of the Southern Railway Company, to view the stupendous works required for carrying that railway over the mountain called the Semmering. At the station they were regaled by a collation provided for them by the directors, and on their return witnessed the performance of an opera at the new Imperial Opera House, which was brilliantly illuminated and tastefully decorated for the occasion by special orders from the Emperor, who was also present, after which the party broke up. Thus ended the fourth congress, and if the actual results were not of very great importance, it had the good effect of becoming personally acquainted with each other, promoting an interchange of ideas on various subjects connected with the profession, and sowing the seed that will probably ripen and bring forth good fruit when the fifth congress shall be held next year.

Though, as above stated, great facilities were offered, it cannot be said that the number of newspapers represented was as large as might have been expected. Many of the principal organs of the German Press were conspicuous by their absence, among them being the *Kölnische Zeitung* of Cologne, the *Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung*, and several of the leading journals of Berlin, amongst others the *Neue Preussische (Kreuz) Zeitung* and the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*; but, on the other hand, the following well known organs were represented either by their chief editors or proprietors:—The *Berlin Vossische Zeitung*, the *Zukunft*, the *Bazar*, the *Börsen-Courier*, the *Gerichts Zeitung*, the *Wespen*, and the *Magazin für die Literatur des Auslandes*; the *Breslauer Zeitung* and the *Schlesische Zeitung*; the *Frankfurter Journal*, the *Elberfelder Zeitung*, the *Deutsche Industrie Zeitung*, the *Schaubühne*, the *Deutsche Volks Zeitung*, the *Badische Landes Zeitung*, the *Ostdeutsche Zeitung*, the *Statistische Zeitung*, the *Kölnher Funken* (Cologne), the *Eisenbahn Zeitung* (Lübeck), the *Pfalz Zeitung*, and the *Flensburger Anzeiger*. TEUTON.

RUSSIA.

The German *St. Petersburger Zeitung* has received a second warning for publishing a letter from Riga complaining of the inconvenience felt in the Baltic provinces by the introduction of Russian as the official language, and ending with the following passage:—"The Russification of the Baltic provinces is not a question of nationalities, but one of civilisation. Civilisation is not a national, but a cosmopolitan idea, and the solidarity of interests unites all nations for ever. Therefore as long as German civilisation and education predominate over Russian, it belongs to our (German) attributes to build the bridge leading from the West to the East, and the more the fruits of civilisation are despised by the East the more important is the bridge that admits the traffic eastwards. It is only in this way that the true value of the German provinces can be appreciated and utilised."

SWEDEN.

Another congress has been held at Stockholm, which was of some importance for newspapers, as its object was to lay down certain general fundamental principles for the orthography of the three dialects (Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish) of the Scandinavian language, which has hitherto been left to the discretion or indiscretion of individual writers; so that there was no uniformity observed either in the periodical Press or by other writers. This great want in the literature of the country has now to a certain extent been filled up, as the congress passed several resolutions ensuring for the future an uniformity of spelling many of the words written in the most diverging manner possible.

DENMARK.

On the day of the late nuptials of the Crown Prince of Denmark with the Princess Louise of Sweden the *Dags-Telegraphen*, of Copenhagen, published a special edition most elaborately and handsomely got up, and which may be considered quite as a specimen of high art in typography, reflecting great credit on the printing establishment of Messrs. C. Ferslow and Co. It contains portraits of the illustrious new-married couple, which are most wonderful likenesses, printed in sepia tone which gives them the appearance of photographs. The portraits are represented as placed in the centre of their respective coats of arms, surrounded by wreaths of roses and myrtles, together with arabesques and other ornaments in coloured typography.

TURKEY.

A lady's paper is now published at Constantinople in the Turkish language. It is called *Terak*, or Progress, and its object is not to emancipate the female sex, but to improve their social position by teaching them useful things. Above all things it recommends them first of all to learn to read.

ITALY.

The Government has been proceeding of late with great severity against the Press. A small Florentine paper, entitled the *Asino*, has been seized, I think, between 40 and 50 times in succession. When seizures occur only now and then they are hailed as a god-send by speculative journalists, but when they follow each other with such rapidity there is evidently no margin left upon which a profit can be made. The responsible director of the *Gazzettino Rosa*, of Milan, was arrested a few days ago, and put under lock and key, and on Saturday night an embargo was laid upon the current number of the *Riforma*, "for an offence against the sacred person of the king." The *Riforma* in its subsequent impression asserts that the article in question was merely a translation from the *Siccle* of Paris, adding, by way of a clench, "It is settled, then, once for all, that in Italy we are not allowed to reprint what may be circulated with impunity in France under Imperial rule." The *Riforma* must, however, be fully aware that many things may be written in France about Italy and in Italy about France which would not pass muster in either country if they referred to home matters. The policy of this vigorous dealing with the Press may be questioned, but there can be no doubt whatever about the extent of the provocation. A great portion of the Italian Press is conducted by men possessing none of the qualities deemed requi-

site for such a profession in other countries. Ignorant, foul-mouthed, and unscrupulous, they have absolutely no stock in trade but slander, and in this they deal to an extent which is absolutely frightful. It is not too much to say that there is no country in Europe capable at the present day of exhibiting so deplorable and disheartening a spectacle as that which is daily afforded by a certain portion of the Italian Press, and no more damaging evidence could be required of the intellectual and moral shortcomings of a nation which not merely tolerates, but encourages this hideous mockery of free discussion. Whether, however, it would not be safer and better to leave the evil to effect its own cure is one upon which a variety of opinions may exist.—*Standard Correspondence*.

The prosecution instituted by Commander Balduino against the *Dovere* of Genoa has been postponed *sine die*, as several important witnesses, such as General Fabrizzi and Professor Weillschott, are at present unable to attend on account of illness. Another witness, Cavalotti, one of the editors of the *Gazzettino Rosa*, has absconded, being implicated in the June tumults at Milan, and threatened with punishment. Previously he fought a duel with an officer named Civotti, editor of the *Italia Militare*, in which both combatants were wounded. This prevented for a time Cavalotti's fighting another officer, De Amicis, also connected with the *Italia Militare*, and if he ever returns he will have above a dozen other duels on his hands, having contrived personally to affront a number of gentlemen all connected with the Press.

SPAIN.

A Madrid telegram states that the commander of the centre battalion of the volunteers has organised a band for the purpose of "horsewhipping journalists and tradespeople known to be opposed to the present state of things." According to the same authority, the editors of the *Siglo* have been roughly handled, a shop has been sacked, and the authorities are "powerless to prevent these acts of violence." The journalists of Madrid have accordingly held a meeting to protest against the arbitrary conduct of the volunteers.

THE NETHERLANDS.

The *Nieuwe Rotterdammer Courant* lately celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its existence, when Mynheer Fels, the chief editor and one of the most accomplished Dutch journalists, who has conducted the paper ever since its first appearance and raised it to its present proud position of the best written paper in the kingdom, was presented by the proprietors with a handsome silver vase.

The provincial court of South Holland has pronounced judgment in the case of Jacob de Vletter, a gentleman connected with the Press, accused of rebellion and being the principal ringleader in the disgraceful tumults that took place at Rotterdam in October last. He was found guilty of the charges brought against him, and is sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

BAVARIA.

The illustrated and harmlessly amusing weekly, known as the *Fliegende Blätter*, published by the firm of Messrs. Braun and Schneider at Munich, has completed its fiftieth anniversary, on which occasion the contributors, artists, and composers were entertained by the proprietors.

BADEN.

At Heidelberg a new French journal has been started under the name of *La Fraternité*, edited by M. Labigandières. Its object is to improve the relations and cement the cordiality between Germany and France by giving an "objective" description of the political situation of the day and the relative parties in both countries.

EGYPT.

In just appreciation of the powerful support rendered to the Suez Canal undertaking by the periodical Press of Europe, his Highness the Viceroy intends to invite the editors and managers of the principal newspapers of all countries to be present at the ceremony of opening the canal for public traffic in November next, their travelling expenses and hotel charges to be de-

of his own privy purse. At the same time we learn that the Suez Canal Company are about to invite the principal organs of the Press to send out special correspondents, and offer to pay all their expenses.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, August 18.

The successor to Mr. Raymond as editor of the *Times* is the Honourable John Bigelow, who was our minister in Paris during Mr. Lincoln's Presidency, and was formerly editor of the *New York Evening Post*. It is said that Mr. Bigelow (who professes Republican opinions), is to have a salary of ten thousand dollars, besides a considerable share in the property. Considerable curiosity seems to exist as to the incomes of newspaper proprietors and editors, and the tax returns are frequently quoted when they refer to Press people. Thus the assessor's returns for St. Louis are stated to show the following:—The Republican paper, George Knapp, 28,165 dols.; John Knapp, 25,244 dols.; William Hyle, 7,000 dols. The Democratic paper—William McKee, 31,039 dols.; G. W. Fishback, 24,127 dols.; D. M. Houser, 16,000 dols. Provincial journalism here can produce as many examples of prosperity as with you. It is stated that the *Daily Ledger*, of Philadelphia recently contained in one issue fifteen hundred advertisements.

The New York Editorial Association held its annual meeting at the Cornell Library Hall, Ithaca, on June 24th and 25th. The annual address, which was a very well written document, was delivered by Rodney L. Adams, of the *Geneva Courier*. A. A. Hopkins, associate editor of the *Rural New Yorker*, read a poem.

The New Jersey Editorial Association, and the Editors' and Publishers' Union of Indiana, have also held their meetings, but nothing transpired at them likely to interest your readers.

In the absence of news, I send you a sketch of our eminent journalist, Mr. Charles A. Dana, condensed from the *Evening Mail*:—

Mr. Dana is descended from an old New England family, and was born in New Hampshire in 1819. He received an ordinary school education up to his eleventh year, and afterwards entered a dry goods store in Buffalo, kept by his uncle, where he remained about eight years.

In 1837 his uncle failed, and for the succeeding two years young Dana was engaged in settling up his affairs, while at the same time he prepared himself for college in an unusually short time, and at the age of twenty entered Harvard.

His college labours seriously affected his eyesight, so that he was forced to abandon all study, and partly from this reason, as well as from a deep sympathy with the Communistic movement, he in 1841 joined the Brook Farm enterprise, and became one of its active members.

Brook Farm was founded by a company of persons who had become interested in the doctrines of Charles Fourier and other socialistic writers, and was intended as an experiment to establish Communism in this country. The farm consisted of 200 acres of land near Reedville, Massachusetts, and the association continued between six and seven years. It was finally broken up, and the originators suffered a heavy loss. During his connection with it Dana taught school, and edited a paper called the *Harbinger*.

After leaving Brook Farm, Dana came to New York, accompanied by George Ripley, where they both obtained positions on the *Tribune*. The former had previously attracted some attention by contributions to the *Harbinger* and also to the *Chromotype*, a journal edited by Elizur Wright, his articles being mostly literary reviews.

His first position was that of simple reporter, with a salary of ten dollars a week. His ability, however, was soon recognised, and in 1848, at the breaking out of the French Revolution, he was sent to Paris as special correspondent. His letters in this capacity were widely read, and gave him quite a reputation, while he derived much benefit from his experience abroad, and gained many acquaintances among French men of letters and socialists. On his return to New York he took the position of city editor of the *Tribune*, and in due time succeeded Mr. Oliver Johnson as managing editor.

The plan still pursued of selecting the managing editor by the ballots of the stockholders had then just been instituted, and the

paper had also been permanently enlarged in a double sheet, which was considered a great event in journalism at that time. Mr. Dana had, therefore, every advantage in his favour, and soon made his influence decidedly felt. He wrote but little himself, though some of his leading articles, signed with the initials "C. A. D.," to distinguish them from Mr. Greeley's, with whose views they did not always agree, were remarkably able.

About 1854, when the Nebraska question absorbed [general attention, the *Tribune* reached its highest point of efficiency. By that time Mr. Dana had collected around him an editorial staff which included such names as George Ripley, Mr. Pike, W. H. Fry, Charles A. Congdon, Bayard Taylor, George W. Curtis, W. H. Huntington, I. W. England, and F. J. Ottarson as regular writers, whilst among occasional contributors were Richard Hildreth, the historian; Charles Sumner, Edwin Stanton, Count Garrowski, Edmund Quincy, Francis Pulszky, Henry C. Carey, Charles W. March, Charles Brisbane, Robert Dale Owen, Stephen Pearl Andrews, and a host of other writers, whose articles for ability and power have never been surpassed in newspaper history, and which enabled the *Tribune* to exert a tremendous influence in the political and social discussions then pending.

In the midst of his editorial labours Mr. Dana found time to prepare his admirable "Household Book of English Poetry," which proved so popular both in this country and England. He also superintended the publication of an illustrated work on the United States. And in 1858 he began the joint editorship with Mr. George Ripley, of the "New American Cyclopædia," which, from their wide acquaintance among literary men, they were both particularly fitted to undertake.

From 1850 until 1863 Mr. Dana presided in the editorial chair of the *Tribune* and directed its affairs, which have always been conducted on the autocratic principle, Mr. Greeley's personal views regulating everything. This arrangement did not entirely suit Mr. Dana, who took an almost independent position as managing editor, and assumed the responsibility of many things which were opposed to Mr. Greeley's wishes. Hence frequent jars occurred between them, which, while they greatly irritated Mr. Greeley, did not lessen the independence of his second in command in the least, and in time led to his withdrawal from the paper.

The history of "On to Richmond" is equally curious. The origin of that expression was due to General Fitz Henry Warren, then Washington correspondent of the *Tribune*, and now minister to one of the South American republics, who in one of his letters stated that in his opinion the vital points of the Southern confederacy were at Richmond and Memphis, and that the demand of the country should be "On to Richmond—on to Memphis." The former expression was repeated in the *Tribune* and adopted as a rallying cry by Dana, who is really responsible for its effects.

The stockholders of the *Tribune* had become, or professed to be, dissatisfied with Mr. Dana's management, and at their annual meeting they elected Sidney Howard Gay to fill the position of managing editor in his place.

Immediately after leaving the *Tribune* Mr. Dana accepted the position of Assistant Secretary of War, which he retained until the close of the war. He remained in Washington a part of the time assisting Mr. Stanton, and was also with Grant for a long period during the Vicksburg campaign.

He resigned his Assistant Secretaryship at the close of the war to go to Chicago and start the *Chicago Republican*, with a salary of 10,000 dol. a year, but he was so hampered by the restraints imposed by the publishers of that journal, both in respect to supplying funds and by interfering with the editorial management of the paper, that he gave up the position and returned to New York.

In the winter of 1867, the *Sun* was purchased and re-established as a morning paper, with Mr. Dana as editor-in-chief, and a stock company including many prominent business men, representing a capital of 350,000 dols. as proprietors.

The success of this enterprise has surprised every one. In spite of the many obstacles it had to contend against, the *Sun* has steadily advanced in popular favour until it has not only retained its former position, but in the opinion of the experts is destined to rank as one of the foremost morning journals. It

has a local circulation second to none of the latter, and is already paying a handsome return to its stockholders. Its editorial management has been remarkably skilful, and its success has fully redeemed Mr. Dana's credit from the effects of his Chicago failure.

In personal appearance Mr. Dana is tall and heavily built, with a manly, dignified bearing. He walks with a vigorous step and a swinging gait, giving one the general impression of a man of great force and character. His head is massive and unusually broad in the upper portion. He wears a full beard, now just turning grey, and when at work large gold spectacles, which give him a rather venerable appearance. His eyes are large and deep set, with a peculiarly mild expression, and his voice is low and pleasant. He is usually at the *Sun* office before any of his associate editors, and during the forenoon keeps closely occupied reading the exchanges and writing. The afternoon is taken up with visitors, who are rapidly attended to and dismissed, and at half-past five o'clock he goes home. In the evening he is again at the office, when all the editorial matter for the next day's paper is submitted to his revision. As his eyes are weak, he does not like to use them at night, but sits in an arm chair wrapt in a large army-cloak, and listens while the proofs are read to him, or dictates other articles in this position. He keeps himself informed of everything going on in the office, down even to the smallest details, and in this respect is a model journalist.

SOL.

Burlington, Vermont, has started a new paper, entitled the *New Idea*, which is printed in alternate columns of French and English.

The Cuban refugees at Key West are about to start a newspaper to advocate the cause of the revolutionists in Cuba.

A newspaper is to be started at Sitka, to be called the *Alaska Times*.

The *New York Herald* made arrangements to have an account of the international boat race, to the extent of a column, sent over the same day, by the Atlantic cable.

A new Irish paper, *The Irish West*, has made its appearance in Cincinnati.

A few years ago it was customary to point to Chicago as the most wonderful example of the growth of American cities. We now learn that Colorado, which, ten years ago, was seven hundred miles beyond the boundaries of civilization, possesses a population of 100,000 souls, and its principal city, Dover, has three daily and four weekly papers!

MR. PICKERING, of the *Bulletin*, may be readily known by the falsehood which the *Herald* says is branded on his forehead, and which, it informs us, "blisters there to this hour" (seven o'clock last Monday morning). We presume it blisters there still, unless the late rains have washed it away. Pity the callous sinner is not sensible of his misery.—*San Francisco News Letter*.

A LEAVENWORTH editor is in quest of special attractions for his paper. He says, "What we want for this column is personalities, as mean as possible. Expense of libel suits to be defrayed by the writer; funeral expenses by us."

FIGHTING EDITORS.—The editor of the *Paducah Kentuckian* challenged the editor of the *Cairo Bulletin* for the publication of a trifling squib about the former; but the latter does not recognise the "code," and prefers to explain that no offence was intended.—The Attorney-General of Tennessee, being annoyed at an article in the *Nashville Stokes* organ, called at the office to see the editor, demanding to know whether he was responsible for the article. The editor replied that he was; whereupon the Attorney-General drew a repeater and fired at Mr. Editor. The latter immediately knocked the pistol out of the hands of the former, and gave Mr. Attorney-General a severe chastisement.

A New York paper intends to open a reading-room, with 10,000 volumes for the use of its subscribers.

A dealer in second-hand books in Frankfort advertises a complete collection of newspapers published in the United States. Five hundred dollars, in gold, is the price he asks for it.

The editor of the *Willimantic* (Conn.) *Sentinel* is not quite 15 years old, yet, with the assistance of a younger brother, he does the type-setting, making up, and press work. The sheet is 9 x 14 inches, and contains 12 columns.

A Western paper says: "Wanted at this office, an editor who

can please everybody. Also a foreman who can so arrange the paper as to allow every man's advertisement to head the column."

The newspapers are generally complaining of the want of facilities given correspondents at the White House for obtaining news. As they cannot ascertain the truth, many of them telegraph lies instead.

The South at present has, among other newly-established papers, the *Forerunner*, the *Headlight*, the *American Rescue*, and the *Jimplecute*.

INDIA.

The agitation for cheaper postage on newspapers has spread to India. Letter postage there is cheap enough, but the postage of a daily paper costs about £2 a year.

A paper called the *Indian Economist* is to be started at Calcutta.

AUSTRALIA.

The death is announced of Mr. George Cavenagh, a Victorian of thirty years' standing and one of the pioneers of the Press in Victoria. The deceased gentleman was the son of a major in the Indian army, who retired from active service to enjoy, in his native country, a fortune amassed by industry and prudence. Unfortunately for him, however, his funds had been invested in a banking company in India, the failure of which involved him in ruin. With the wreck that remained, the gallant officer paid his creditors 19s. 6d. in the pound, and his sons emigrated to the British colonies to fight the battle of life on their own account. Mr. George Cavenagh repaired to Sydney, and about the year 1839 came to Melbourne. He afterwards became proprietor of the *Herald*, at that time a flourishing property, from which he retired with a competence, and has since taken little part in public affairs.

NEW ZEALAND.

The *Taranaki Herald* is now issued twice a week. It has been reduced to half its former size and price. It is well known how few of the broadsheets of this colony enjoy such a pecuniary prosperity as to enable them to adequately remunerate superior literary ability; hence the tame mediocrity so often betrayed by the columns of the *New Zealand Press*. But that there are instances to the contrary, the following will serve to show. According to the *Tuapeka Times*, Mr. Vogel has accepted the editor's chair of the *Southern Cross*, at a salary of £1,500 per annum. However liberal this may seem, it is by no means an improvement in Mr. Vogel's pecuniary fortunes; for to our knowledge this gentleman received £900 a year as editor of the *Otago Daily Times*, while in receipt of a contemporaneous salary of £800 as Provincial Treasurer and Secretary.—*Wellington Independent*, May 20th. [Mr. Barton, formerly attached to the Sydney Press, and a frequent contributor to the columns of the *Newspaper Press*, has succeeded Mr. Vogel as editor of the *Otago Daily Times*.—ED. N. P.]

An application for a criminal information against Mr. Harding, proprietor and editor of the *Hawkes Bay Times*, for publishing an advertisement appearing to reflect on Mr. Carlyon, J.P., and Member of the Provincial Council, was refused by Mr. Justice Johnstone in the Supreme Court of Napier on the 18th May; his honour remarking that "for his own part, he was very slow to use his power of granting criminal informations unless in cases where it appeared absolutely necessary."

It is rumoured that Mr. Hamilton Hume has accepted the editorship of the *Western Mail*, a Conservative daily journal.

THE "ATHENÆUM."—It is said that either Dr. Doran or Mr. J. C. Jeaffreson will succeed Mr. Hepworth Dixon in the editorial chair of the *Athenæum*.—*Public Opinion*. It is now said that neither Dr. Doran nor Mr. J. C. Jeaffreson will become editor of the *Athenæum*, but that Sir C. Dilke will edit his own journal, which is to be enlarged and materially altered.—*Ibid.* We are requested to state that the proprietors of the *Athenæum* have entered into an arrangement with a well-known writer to edit the journal for a time; eventually Sir Charles Dilke, who is well acquainted with the traditions of the journal, will take the control of the editorial department. The new year will witness a permanent enlargement of the *Athenæum*, and the introduction of many new features into the paper.—*Echo*.

Law Intelligence.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S COURTS.—JULY 31.
(Before Sir S. STUART.)

MILL V. WHALLEY, M.P., AND THE "PETERBOROUGH TIMES" NEWSPAPER COMPANY (LIMITED).

The suit was instituted on the 16th July, 1869, and the plaintiff, John Mill, prayed for a decree for specific performance of an agreement and for an injunction which was now moved for in the following terms:—"That the defendants might be restrained from printing and publishing the *Peterborough Times* newspaper, and from retaining possession of certain premises, No. 15, Westgate, Peterborough, and the plant, machinery, books, papers, and things appertaining to the newspaper business, or for disturbing, hindering, or molesting the plaintiff in the prosecution of the newspaper business." This newspaper was registered on the 12th of May, 1865, as a company under the Act of 1862. Sixty-two shares were allotted, and the newspaper was published at the above address. It was intended to be the organ of and to support the views of the defendant Whalley's party at Peterborough. In the spring of 1868, the defendant Whalley purchased all the shares, and agreed to indemnify the company against their debts, and he took upon himself the control of the paper. In April, 1868, the defendant Whalley engaged the plaintiff as editor, and after negotiations the plaintiff in July, 1868, agreed to purchase the paper for 300l. by a promissory note at nine months, to be collaterally secured by a policy on his life for 500l., and to indemnify the defendant Whalley against the debts of the publication; and at the same time the plaintiff signed a letter, in which he undertook thus—"First, I will conduct the paper in your interest in everything pertaining to the representation of Peterborough, and will thoroughly espouse and advocate your cause there. Secondly, I will maintain the truly Protestant character of the paper; indeed, my intention is to add to and improve this department by getting some eminent writers to contribute to it." The promissory note and letter of undertaking the defendant Whalley took charge of. On the same date the plaintiff wrote thus:—

"Dear Mr. Whalley,—In taking the *Peterborough Times* from you I agree to conduct the paper in your interest, so far as the representation of Peterborough is concerned, and also to continue the expression of the same Protestant views and sentiments which have hitherto characterised the paper. I shall at all times be glad to receive papers and information from you, which shall occupy a prominent position, and your speeches and letters shall always be fully and accurately reported whenever I have the means of obtaining them. On this latter point I also agree, that to the extent of one column it shall be open to insert the matter which you may send, and that the same shall at your request be reprinted, say 250 copies, and sent to you at the cost of the paper and letter-press, this being a part of the condition of the arrangement this day come to between us. I have received your cheque for 20l. in full payment for my former services as editor, and I will repay Mr. Dull the money which he has advanced to me on your account."

On the 7th of May, 1869, certain gentlemen of Peterborough wrote to the defendant Whalley complaining of the worse than useless part the *Peterborough Times* took in supporting the Whalley party, and stating that, unless something was done to defend them from the continual attacks in the *Peterborough Advertiser* on the one hand, and the misstatements in the *Stamford Mercury* on the other, they would be soon totally annihilated and powerless as a political party. On the 5th June, 1869, the plaintiff was requested by the defendant Whalley's new solicitor to request payment of the 300l. immediately. Certain disputes arose, and on the 7th June forcible possession, alleged to be under the authority of the defendant, was taken of the premises, and a Mr. Dye was entrusted with the management of the paper, and the paper had been continued under such management. The plaintiff complained that he had suffered pecuniary loss, and, in addition to the prayer above set forth, prayed for damages.

The Vice-Chancellor: This case is a very plain one. That there was a valid agreement for the sale by the defendant, Whalley, to the plaintiff of this newspaper is beyond doubt. It is sworn by Mr. Whalley himself that part of the agreement con-

sisted of the letter which contained an undertaking by the plaintiff that he would advocate the cause of Mr. Whalley as the representative of the borough of Peterborough, and would support certain Protestant principles; but that letter in no degree, however, affected the agreement, which constituted an absolute sale and purchase between the parties. In equity the plaintiff is the proprietor of this newspaper and of the property comprised in the agreement. The plaintiff swears he was put into possession of the property, which he purchased, and for which the consideration money was not payable till nine months after the date of the note, and the defendant Whalley was not to assign the property till the money had been paid. The attempt to show that the plaintiff had not been put into possession had signally failed. The possession of Mr. Dye was that of the plaintiff, whose right had not been destroyed by anything done by the defendant Whalley. The plaintiff is entitled to an injunction on the terms of his notice of motion till further orders, but he must at the same time undertake to pay to the defendant on or before the 1st September next the sum of £300 and all interest due on the note.

(Before Sir R. MALINS.)

CHANCE V. SHEPPARD.

This was a motion to restrain the defendant from printing and publishing a newspaper called the *Bedfordshire Express*, or any newspaper under a title of which the *Bedfordshire Express* should form part, on the ground that it was a piracy of the plaintiff's newspaper with precisely the same title. The plaintiff became the proprietor of the *Bedfordshire Express* and *General Advertiser for the Counties of Cambridge, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, and Middlesex*, in 1867, but it had not been published under that title for the seven years prior thereto, and he was the duly registered proprietor since January last. In June, 1869, he became aware that the defendant was publishing another paper with the title the *Bedfordshire Express and General Advertiser of the County*, and he wrote to the defendant to request that he would not publish it any more. The defendant replied, refusing to comply with such request, and hence this suit.

Mr. Cole, Q.C., and Mr. Rigby for the plaintiff.

Mr. Glasse, Q.C., and Mr. Higgins, for the defendant, contended that the defendant was right, and that the plaintiff was not entitled to an injunction.

The Vice-Chancellor said the defence of the defendant was an extraordinary one, for he said, though he must have known otherwise, that he did not know that the plaintiff had a paper of the same title as his own. The defendant ought to have written to the effect that he had made a mistake, and have apologised in a tradesmanlike manner. He had not done that. The injunction must be granted as prayed.

COURT OF CHANCERY.—AUGUST 2 AND 3.

(Before Lord Justice GIFFARD.)

MILL V. WHALLEY, M.P., AND THE "PETERBOROUGH TIMES" NEWSPAPER COMPANY (LIMITED).

This was an appeal from a decision of Vice-Chancellor Stuart reported in a previous column.

Lord Justice Giffard thought that on an undertaking being given by the defendants to continue the publication of the newspaper until the hearing of the cause, and to account to the plaintiff for any profits arising therefrom, no order should be made (except that the costs be costs in the cause), unless the plaintiff should, on or before Saturday week, pay into Court the £300 with interest at £5 per cent. If he should do that the injunction might be granted. The plaintiff had given no sufficient excuse for not having paid the money before. According to his own showing he had had the benefit of the agreement up to June, though he had not fulfilled his own part of it. At the latest he ought to have paid the money in June, and, having regard to the evidence, it would be unjust to grant an injunction unless the money was paid into court, and the indulgence up to Saturday week was quite as long as the plaintiff was entitled to.

CROYDON ASSIZES.—AUGUST 10.

(Before Mr. HAWKINS, Q.C.)

HUGHES V. MURRAY.

This was an action brought by Mr. Hughes, the late publisher of the *Queen's Messenger*, against Mr. Grenville Murray, the pro-

prior, to recover damages for wrongful dismissal, and the payment of arrears of salary to which he claimed to be entitled.

Mr. Day and Mr. Kemp were counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Garth, Q.C., merely appeared to watch the case for the defendant, the action being virtually undefended.

Mr. John Hughes, the plaintiff, was examined. He said that he was formerly the publisher of a journal called *Quiz*, and in the beginning of the year 1868 Mr. Grenville Murray called upon him, and asked him to give up his then engagement and undertake the publication of the *Queen's Messenger*, and devote all his time and attention to it. He at first objected, but ultimately consented to the terms proposed by Mr. Murray, which were that he was to have 10 per cent. commission on the sale up to 1,000 copies, and 12½ per cent. up to 2,000, and he was to have 25 per cent. on the amount received for advertisements, and a bonus of two guineas per week. At first it was proposed that the *Queen's Messenger* should only be published during the sitting of Parliament, but after it was arranged that the paper should be kept on after the Parliament had adjourned, and his engagement was to continue on same terms. He went on publishing the paper until the beginning of June, when Mrs. Murray came to the office and made use of very strong language to him (a laugh).

Mr. Day.—And you left?

Mr. Hughes said he did not exactly leave; but Mr. Murray's counsel and his solicitor came to the office, and with the assistance of the printer they forcibly ejected him. A few days after that had happened he called upon Mr. Murray and asked him whether some arrangement could not be made to prevent the disputes that had taken place, and for him to continue the publication of the *Queen's Messenger*, but Mr. Murray denied all knowledge of him or of the *Queen's Messenger*, and ordered him to leave the room.

Mr. Garth having intimated that he had nothing to say on behalf of the defendant, and, after some remarks from Mr. Day, the learned Judge, in summing up, said that, although a portion of the public might have a taste for scurrilous matters such as those referred to, it ought at the same time to be borne in mind that a publisher of such matters placed himself in considerable peril, and he did not think the plaintiff was entitled to ask for damages for what he might have obtained at some future time. With regard to the other portion of the claim, the plaintiff was, of course, entitled to a verdict.

The Jury, after a short deliberation, returned a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, £67 14s., that being the actual amount to which he was entitled at the period of his dismissal.

Upon the application of Mr. Day, the learned Judge ordered immediate execution.

AUGUST 14.

(Before the LORD CHIEF BARON and a Special Jury.)

ALLINGTON V. ELLIOTT AND OTHERS.

This was an action of libel against the defendants, who are the proprietors of a publication called *Echoes*, formerly known as *Echoes from the Clubs*.

The defendants merely pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine, Mr. Philbrick, and Mr. Vaughan Williams were for the plaintiff; Mr. Hawkins, Q.C., Mr. J. P. Murphy, and Mr. Crump were for the defendants.

The libel consisted in some very strong remarks on the alleged acts of the plaintiff in the course of a fracas at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, when it was stated at the police court, he twisted the ring which he wore on his finger before striking his adversary, thus causing it to cut. This the plaintiff denied on oath.

The Chief Baron, in summing up, said that there could be no doubt that the article complained of was a very serious libel upon the plaintiff; and the question for the consideration of the jury was whether the defendants were justified, upon the facts of the case, in publishing the article in question, and making so serious an attack upon the plaintiff. He then referred to the proceedings at the police court, and said he could not help remarking that it was to be regretted that the magistrate, upon the evidence of one witness only, and when the defendant could not by law give his account of the transaction, should have made use of such an observation as that the plaintiff had been guilty of a disgraceful act in turning his ring for the purpose of striking the man White-

house with it. He then referred to the other facts in the case, and concluded by leaving the Jury to decide whether the defendants had or had not exceeded the fair bounds of comment in the article in question.

The Jury, after a very brief deliberation, returned a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, £500.

Upon the application of Mr. Hawkins,

The learned Judge consented to allow execution to be stayed till November, to enable the defendants to take what steps they may consider advisable with reference to the verdict.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. HENRY ADAMS.

WITH deep regret we have to announce the death of Mr. Henry Adams, editor of the *Derby and Chesterfield Reporter*. The melancholy event took place a few minutes before midnight on the 25th July. Mr. Adams died, comparatively speaking, a young man, having only just attained his 54th year. His health had been declining for some time past, but it was not until the afternoon of Friday, the 16th July, that he succumbed. On that day he took to his bed, but his medical adviser, had for several days hopes that he would rally. On Saturday morning, however, there were symptoms of paralysis, and then congestion of the lungs supervened, causing his death at a quarter before twelve o'clock on Sunday evening.

Mr. Adams had been for forty years on the staff of the *Reporter*. He was a native of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, where his parents occupied a respectable position in trade, and at the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to Messrs. Pike, of Derby, to learn the general business of a printer and bookseller. Having served his time with credit to himself and fidelity to his employers, he was engaged to take charge of the *Derbyshire Chronicle*, of which the first number was printed at Chesterfield, January 2nd, 1836, by Messrs. Woodhead and Nall. This publication was, however, afterwards absorbed in that of the *Derby and Chesterfield Reporter*, at that time edited by Mr. Walter Pike, and the services of Mr. Adams were retained by his first employers. Since that time Mr. Adams has been the responsible editor of the *Reporter*. Through his life he was a staunch advocate of Liberal principles. At the political elections for the borough and county he took an active and prominent part, and whilst he wrote fearlessly on behalf of the candidates whom he adopted, he never made an enemy of those who differed from him in political matters. To show the high estimation in which the deceased was held, we may state that on February the 2nd, 1859, a large gathering of men of all shades of political opinion (including the proprietors and reporters of the *Derby Mercury* and *Derbyshire Advertiser*) assembled at the King's Head Hotel, when the late Sir Joseph Paxton, an old friend of thirty years' standing, presented Mr. Adams, in the name of a very numerous body of subscribers, with a purse containing £500, and an address.

Mr. Adams leaves a widow and six children—four sons and two daughters.

MR. EDWARD BARROW.

With feelings of sincere regret we record the death, at the age of 71 years, of Mr. Edward Barrow, for nearly 40 years a member of the literary staff of the *Morning Herald*, and for several years of that of the *Standard*. Throughout his lengthened career it was the pride and pleasure of Mr. Barrow to enjoy the universal respect of the profession to which he belonged, and of a numerous circle of private friends, on account of his genial nature and many companionable qualities. In the earlier period of his connection with the Press he was attached to the *Mirror of Parliament*, of which his late brother, Mr. John Barrow, was the editor, and upon which he had for one of his collaborators his nephew, the now celebrated Charles Dickens.

MR. ROBERT FARRANT.

The death of Mr. Robert Farrant, proprietor of the *Wiltshire County Mirror*, took place at Bemerton, near Salisbury, on the 29th July. The late Mr. Farrant, who was 68 years of age, was

a native of Devonshire, and about 40 years ago established himself in business at Salisbury as a chemist. He was first returned to the Town Council about the year 1845, and served as Mayor of the city in 1848 and 1849. In 1852 he purchased the copyright of the *Salisbury Herald*, and brought that paper out in a new and enlarged form under the title of the *Wiltshire County Mirror*, which is the organ of Conservatism in Salisbury. The *Salisbury Herald* was established in July, 1833, and appeared as the *Wiltshire County Mirror* in February, 1852. It is the oldest-established agricultural and commercial newspaper in the West of England.

MR. THOMAS CALVERT.

This gentleman, who was one of the proprietors of the *Durham Chronicle*, expired at his residence at Durham on the 7th of July, from consumption. The late Mr. Calvert was 84 years of age, and left a widow and three children behind him.

Home Subjects.

The Leader has reduced its price to one penny.

THE "WESTMINSTER GAZETTE" has been reduced in price to threepence.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN AND Co. are about to publish a new weekly scientific journal under the title of *Nature*.

"ONCE A WEEK" has been purchased by Messrs. Cooper, of Fleet-street, who will publish it henceforth. It will not be illustrated, and Mr. Dallas ceases to edit it.

MR. BEN. BRYAN, formerly attached to the *Derby Mercury*, has, we hear, succeeded to the editorship of the *Blackburn Standard and Patriot*.

THE "QUEEN'S MESSENGER" is announced to reappear with the meeting of Parliament. The *Plain Speaker*, once spoken of as an offshoot, has not, to our knowledge, come into existence.

MR. HENRY KINGSLEY, we hear, has given up the attractions of London society, and his pleasant home on the banks of the Thames, at Wargrave, for a permanent residence at Edinburgh, whither he goes as editor of the *Edinburgh Daily Review*.

THERE is no foundation whatever for the statement which appeared in our last to the effect that "a new halfpenny morning paper is talked of;" at any rate, Mr. Saunders denies any knowledge of the matter.—*Printers' Register*.

AMATEUR JOURNAL.—The *North Lincoln Sphinx* is a periodical conducted by the soldiers of the 2nd Battalion 10th Foot now at Secunderabad. The printing, the work of the soldiers themselves, would be creditable to professional workmen.—*Press News*.

MR. EDWARD PURDON, Town Councillor, of Bachelor's-walk, Dublin, printer and proprietor of the *Farmer's Gazette*, has been unanimously nominated to serve as Lord Mayor of the above city for the year 1870.

THE "HULME ADVERTISER."—The men employed in this office had their annual dinner on Aug. 4, at Moorfield Gardens, Sale, Cheshire; Mr. Francis Metcalfe, the overseer, in the chair. The health of the proprietor and prosperity to the paper were the toasts of the day.

A NEW Conservative weekly, under the auspices of the Constitutional party in Denbighshire and Flintshire—the *Wrexham Guardian*—will appear on Saturday, September 4th. The *Guardian* will be *Times* size, printed on good paper, and will be spiritedly conducted.

BIRMINGHAM "DAILY POST."—The annual waygoose of this office was held at the Old Rose and Crown Inn, Bromsgrove, Lickey, on August 7. After enjoying themselves amid the romantic scenery of the Lickey Hills, about 70 members of the staff sat down to an excellent dinner.

THE NEW LITERARY PAPER.—Some months ago, we intimated that a new literary and critical journal was projected to appear in the autumn of this year. We are now at liberty to add that the new journal will be brought out by Mr. Murray, under the title of the *Academy*, with Dr. William Smith as editor.

ADVERTISING.—Merchants think nothing of paying five pounds for one sign, with nothing but their name on it. Well! what do you think of having 5,000 signs a-week in a newspaper? In it you can show your whole establishment to the public every week. If you are wise, just rub your eyes, and go to work and advertise.

MR. JAMES GRANT, the editor of the *Morning Advertiser* was last month defendant at Croydon assizes in an action for libel at the suit of Miss Emily Faithful, to whom in one of his recent pamphlets, he had attributed atheistical proclivities, which plaintiff indignantly disclaimed. An apology was given, and a verdict with nominal damages returned at the suggestion of the Lord Chief Baron.

"LEEDS EXPRESS" STAFF ANNUAL EXCURSION.—On Saturday, the 31st of July, the staff of the *Leeds Daily Express*, to the number of 45, including two or three friends, had an excursion together to Hollingworth Lake. Shortly after their arrival the whole of the party sat down to a substantial cold collation, provided by Mr. Yarwood, of the Lake Hotel, and presided over by Mr. F. R. Spark, managing proprietor and editor. The weather was fine, and a very enjoyable day was spent.

Notes and Queries.

SWINDLING ADVERTISERS.—S. P.—Send us the names. We have a Black List at the service of our readers. If victims of these rascals would regularly supply us with particulars, we could give them a complete list of the swindlers—we have a pretty long one already. We believe we have the history of the scoundrel you allude to—send us his magnificent "offer;" we think we shall recognize it under a new alias.

G. R.—Under consideration.

J. E.—Mere playing upon words, not up to the average of "atrocious punning," is distasteful to us. Ugh! Send it to a "funny" paper. We hope you have kept a copy, for the original has gone into the basket. For the life of us we cannot see the "fun" of such trash.

Obituary.

ANNE, THEODORE, many years editor of the *Union*, at Paris.

BARROW, EDWARD, for forty years on the literary staff of the *Morning Herald and Standard*, aged 71.

DIETZMANN, DR. A., formerly editor of the *Leipziger Tagblatt*, at Leipzig.

GRUBE, HEINRICH, on the editorial staff of the *New York Democrat*, at New York.

HEISIO, HERMANN, editor of the *Kaufmännische Correspondenz*, at Dresden.

HERZ, LEO, a well-known Vienna journalist and correspondent for several foreign newspapers, at Vienna.

HULTIN, L., the feuilletonist of the Stockholm *Dagens Nyheter*, accidentally drowned whilst bathing.

KYRIAKOS, DIOMEDE, upwards of forty years Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Athens, and senior of the modern Greek journalists, at Naples.

ROCHE, JAMES, a well-known member of the Dublin and New York Press, aged 51.

BANKRUPTS.

THRIDGOLD, THOMAS HENRY, Oxford-street, Stepney, newsagent.

WRIGHT, ROBERT BALL, Great Coram-street, and Fleet-street, writer for the Press.

SMITH, WILLIAM, Salisbury-street, Strand, newspaper proprietor.

PARTNERSHIP DISSOLVED.

WALLACE AND HODGSON, St. Helen's, newspaper proprietors.

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TESTIMONIALS.

31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

Messrs. H. S. CROPPER and Co.

GENTLEMEN,—We have pleasure in informing you that the "Minerva" Printing Machine, supplied to us about two months ago, gives us entire satisfaction. The simplicity of its arrangement, beauty of construction, and excellence of workmanship, combined with its other qualifications, justify all that you told us in its favour. The ease of its motion, and its great speed, are important features in the "Minerva;" whilst the freedom from danger in working assists in rendering it a very desirable machine.

Yours respectfully, URWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

Messrs. CROPPER and Co., Nottingham.

GENTLEMEN,—We most willingly give our testimony to the value and efficiency of your "Minerva" Machine, especially with regard to its speed and economy. We consider it the most useful time-saving machine that has come under our notice.

We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
CURTIS and BEAMISH.

6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

DEAR SIR,—We have pleasure in stating that the "Minerva" Machine supplied to us gives satisfaction in every respect.

As a Machine for Cards and Small Jobs, we consider it unequalled, both in quality of work and the ease by which Jobs can be started.

Your Machine deserves a large sale.

Yours truly (for M'CORQUODALE and Co.),
D. CULROSS.

Since the above testimonial was given, Messrs. M'Corquodale and Co. have ordered a second machine.

Messrs. CROPPER and Co.

Halifax, 23rd October, 1867.

GENTLEMEN,—The "Minerva" gives entire satisfaction. Every movement is smooth and easy, and the machine may, on this account, be run at a very high speed without danger. The distribution is perfect, and the forme is rolled more evenly than could be done by hand. We are very much pleased with it.

We are, Gentlemen, yours most truly,
T. and W. BIRTWHISTLE.

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BEG to call the attention of the Printing Trade generally to their PATENT "MOSS" RUBBER INKING ROLLER, composed of a new and homogeneous material of the consistency of Moss, and hermetically sealed in a smooth skin of specially prepared India Rubber.

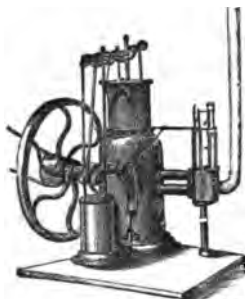
The advantages they claim for these Rollers, as compared with the ordinary Composition Rollers, are,—

1. Their great durability, on account of the unchangeable nature of the material.
2. They are wholly unaffected by any temperature.
3. They are not damaged by brass rule.
4. They are permanently soft and elastic.
5. They can be used immediately after being washed.

These Patent "Moss" Rubber Inking Rollers, can be obtained from no other parties than as above; and Notice is hereby given that the necessary legal steps will be taken where requisite, to protect S. Moulton's Patent for the manufacture of "Moss" Rubber from all infringement.

N.B.—The Ink must be washed off these Rollers before laid by. Alkalies only may be used, such as Pearlash, Potash, or Ammonia. Turpentine, and every kind of Oil, Soft Soap, or Grease, must be carefully avoided. Bisulphuret of Carbon will clean off Coloured Inks.

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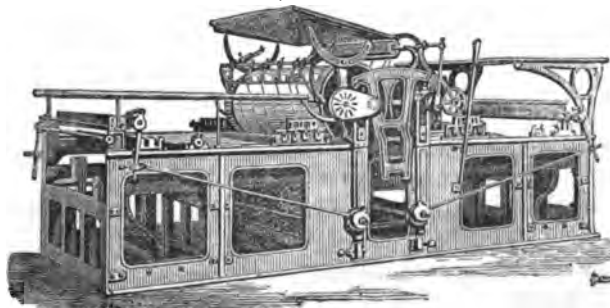
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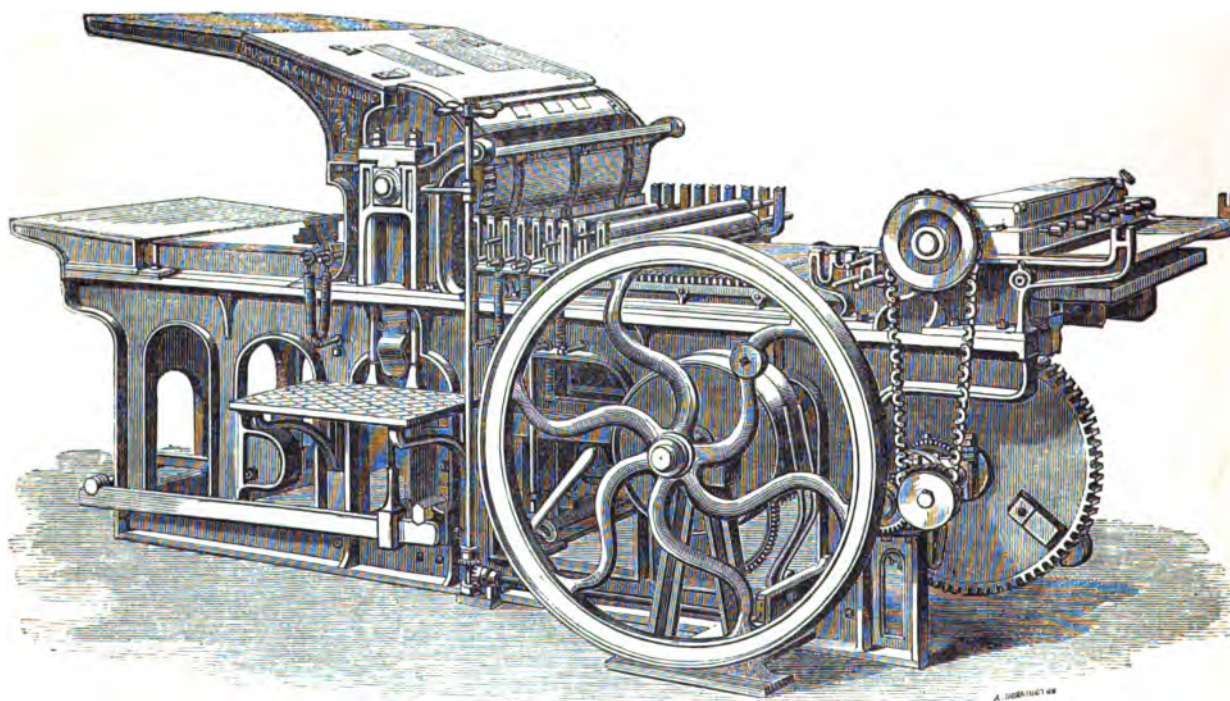
2. **THE ROLLERS** being made from the very best French leather, great uniformity of pressure is obtained, causing so little damage to the work on the stone as to allow as many as 20,000 impressions to be taken from a single transfer. In many cases the quantity printed has far exceeded that number.

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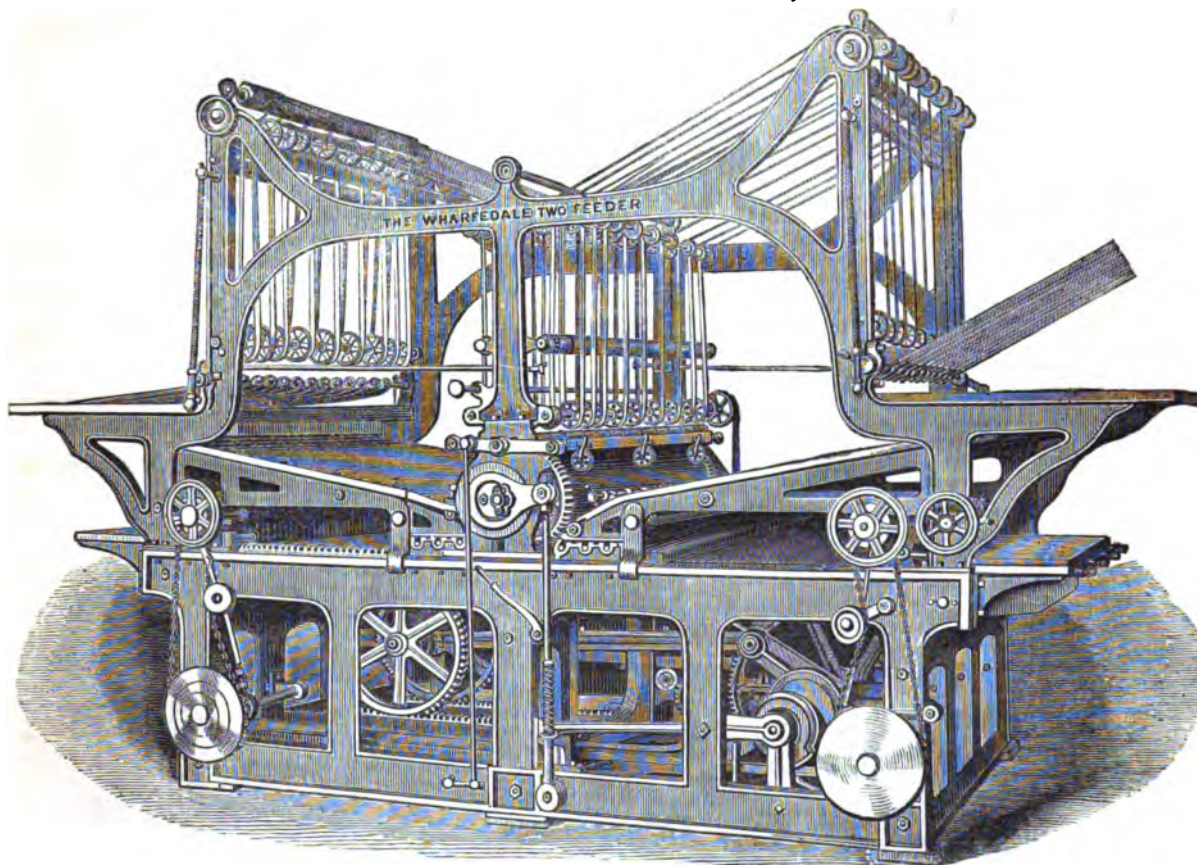
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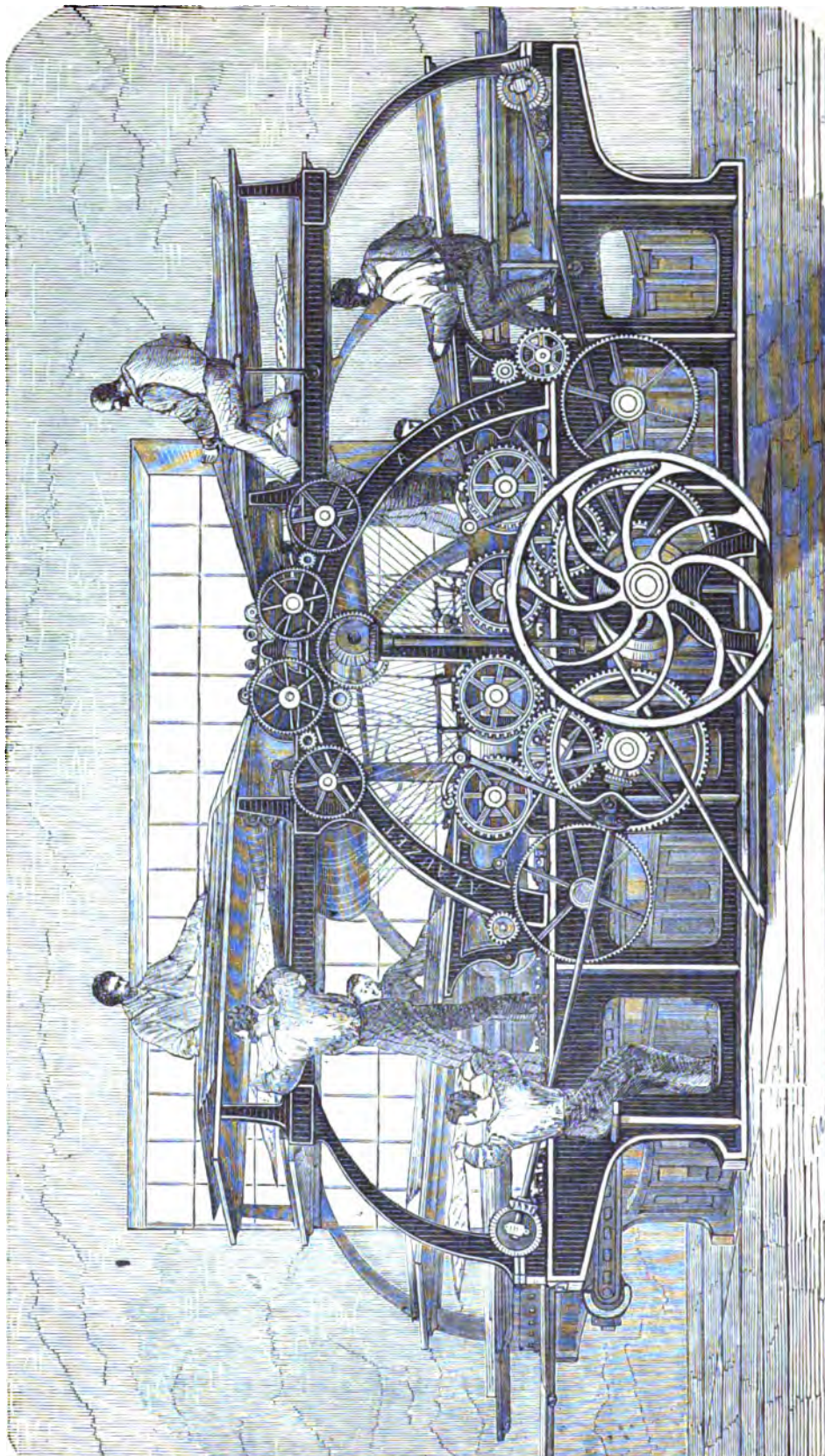
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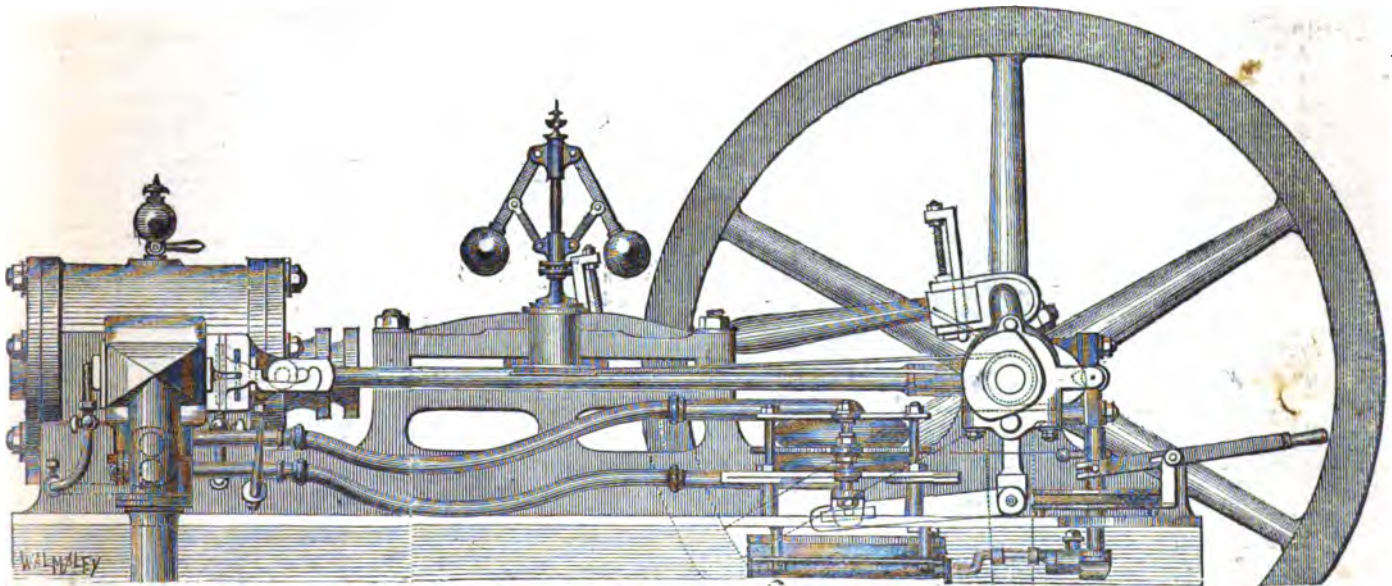
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THE Bankruptcy Act Amendment, 1868, contained a clause making the notification of bankruptcies compulsory in the local papers as well as in the *London Gazette*. But the Bankruptcy Bill of the present year leaves the medium through which the announcements should be made, with the exception of the *London Gazette*, at the option of the Lord Chancellor, or the directions of the officials of the Bankruptcy Court.

This, it will be at once observed, is a very serious departure from the wholesome rule by which the fact of a debtor's bankruptcy would be most directly brought under the notice of his local creditors; and affects the interests of commerce as well as, or even more than, those of newspaper proprietors; but it seems to have escaped the notice of the class most particularly interested.

A deputation, however, from the Provincial Newspaper Society, headed and introduced by Sir John Grey, waited upon the Attorney-General, but as the Bill had then passed into the House of Lords, they were advised to lay their arguments in favour of a retention of the old regulations before the Lord Chancellor. This was done, and subsequently the following reply was received from His Lordship's secretary:—"Sir,—The Lord Chancellor has carefully considered the suggestions which the deputation from the Provincial Newspaper Society made to me the other day in reference to the 2nd sect. of the 31st & 32nd Vict. c. 104, and the corresponding sections of the Bankruptcy Bill, and I am directed by his Lordship to state that he considers that the manner of advertisement (otherwise than in the *London Gazette*) should be left to general orders, and not to be provided for by the Act. I will thank you to communicate this note to the other members of the deputation, and I am, Sir, your obedient servant, GORDON WHITBREAD."

Thus, then, the case stands at present; but the Committee of the Provincial Newspaper Society, in the report issued to their members yesterday, recommend that, when the general orders under the new Act are being prepared, another attempt should be made to obtain a return to the former system, which cannot be departed from without great danger to the interests of provincial traders. We trust that this recommendation will not be forgotten when the proper time arrives.

A WRITER in "The Atlantic Monthly" for January last likens the American Press to "an unmuzzled and dreadful mastiff whose scent is keen for sheep in wolves' clothing." This is tall talk; but it

is not nearly so exaggerated as the encomiums we are forced occasionally to listen to from certain quarters on American journalism. That it is, in many respects, far behind the English Press, is admitted by the better class of American journalists themselves. Personalities, slang, and frivolity are still to be found even in the metropolitan journals of the States, which no English provincial paper that we know of would admit into its columns. Our New York correspondent touches upon this subject in our present number; and an example of bad taste has just come under our own observation in a quarter where it was least to be looked for.

America is the birthplace of puffing and the hotbed of advertising; but we have seldom met with such a daring puff as the following article, which appears among the editorials of the *New York Citizen* of September the 4th:—

"SOAP BUBBLES.

"Hear us, ye great unwashed! There's a fellow named Constantine, not the other fellow, you know, who saw the golden-red cross visioned in the heavens, and who was called 'Great,' but yet a Constantine—in fact, A—A—Constantine. C, O, N, with a Con, S, T, A, N, with a Stan, T, I, Ti, with a Ti, with a Con, Stan, Ti, &c., to the end of the chorus.

Talk of Con of the hundred battles, away with him; he couldn't make soap for his soldiers, could he? We have you there, Con of the H. B. That's just what our Constantine does. (Why he should just send a box of soap to us in preference to other editors is a puzzle—a delicate compliment to our complexion, perhaps.)

"By Jove, sir, that pine tar soap would wash anything; almost anything!" A gentleman whispered in a sepulchral manner to our ears the other day that 'inside that there City Hall there's things as wouldn't wash nohow.' So we suppose it is not universally efficacious.

"Our 'friend and pitcher' Reddy had a supply of this soap when he 'eluded' to California. He used it all up, however, and having 'let it alone he soon came home,' &c., &c., as Tennyson sings. Peter B. (shrewd boy that) took a lot of it over to Europe, so that if the ship struck a rock and was wrecked, he could wash himself ashore. One of our editors tried to eat a pretty girl the other day. She had been using Constantine's soap, and, poor fellow, he mistook her for a peach. He is still alive.

"George Francis Train never travels without boxes and boxes of this soap. Took it with him to Ireland one time, and applied it right and left, and up and down, and along and across, vigorously. They'll soap him into the White House maybe, one day.

"Charlie Stetson served it up every day to Grant at Long Branch. Wasn't enough lye in it though to suit the President.

"Mike Norton has been washing himself and his ticket with it until he is black in the face; but as our astute friend remarked, 'there are things as won't wash nohow.' Mike does not praise the soap.

"Mr. Constantine sent one hundred thousand tons of it to Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, with the author's compliments, asking her to take incessant baths, and, as the receipt-books say, 'rub until the stain disappears.' 'Declined with thanks,' says she, turning up her nose; 'I think black is a pooty colour.'

"Olive tried this soap, and essayed to make herself appear more fair by throwing the suds on the blondes. Awful failure that! Didn't wash one bit o' gold out of their curls, although it put some in her pocket. Moral: Don't throw suds around promiscuous; it is slippery, and one falls and gets badly hurt.

"But seriously, Mr. Constantine's soap is an admirable institution. We have seen instances where it has had most wonderfully beneficial effects, and we have no doubt that there are a great many more which we have not seen, and never shall see."

When we remind our readers that the *New York Citizen* has some pretensions to the character of a high-class literary paper, and has lately absorbed one of the best journals of letters ever published in New York—or, indeed, in America—the *Round Table*, we leave them to guess the inferior quality of American newspapers of a lower status.

THE "TIMES" LAND COMMISSIONER in Ireland is William O'Connor Morris, Esq., of the Irish Bar, formerly the legal member of the Government Fishery Commission, and well known as a writer for the *Fortnightly Review*, and other high-class periodicals. Mr. Morris is related to the Earl of Desart, and is connected with the family of the late Bishop of Kildare.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

By the Author of "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

No. XI.—PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS.—PRESUMPTION AS TO ABSENCE OF MALICE.

We give precedence this month to the case of *Spill v. Maule*—as it decides a new point regarding privileged communications—and postpone other cases, though of anterior date, not dealing with any speciality. The case in question came before the Court of Exchequer Chamber, in May last, upon a bill of exceptions to the ruling of Baron Martin, on the trial, at the Middlesex sittings after Trinity Term, 1868. The case was not reported in the newspapers at the time, and has only recently appeared in some of the reports of the law publications. The point decided was to this effect: That the terms of a communication, *prima facie* privileged, may be so strong as to amount to evidence of actual malice; but that if the circumstances are consistent with an honest belief, on the part of the defendant, in the truth of what he has written, the presumption of absence of malice will not be rebutted by proof of the publication only, without evidence of *express* malice.

The facts proved at the trial were these: The defendant was a creditor of a firm in which the plaintiff and one Briggs were partners, and in 1866, the firm being in pecuniary difficulties, a deed of inspectorship was prepared, and was executed, or assented to by the requisite majority of creditors, and the defendant was, by this deed, appointed one of the inspectors or liquidators for winding up the estate. Disputes having arisen between the plaintiff and his partner, Briggs, both before and with reference to the winding up of the partnership, the plaintiff having, as he alleged, reason to believe that Briggs "was helping himself" improperly to the partnership monies, took away from the cash-book of the firm, in Briggs' absence, bills and notes amounting to between £1,200 and £1,300, desiring the clerk at the same time to tell Briggs what he had done, and to request him to debit the plaintiff with the amount. The plaintiff was afterwards arrested at the suit of the defendant's firm, and ultimately adjudicated a bankrupt. The defendant, writing to a firm carrying on business as Collier and Co., who were creditors of the plaintiff's firm, after alluding to certain letters which Collier and Co. had addressed to Briggs, said, "I may state that the conduct of Mr. Spill has been most disgraceful and dishonest, and the result has been to diminish most materially the available assets of the estate." This statement was supposed to have reference to the plaintiff having "helped himself" to the partnership assets, as before stated, and was the alleged libel. Upon these facts, Baron Martin ruled that there was no evidence for the jury in support of the plaintiff's case, and directed a verdict for the defendant, on the ground that the letter complained of was a privileged communication, and was justified by the facts proved. The bill of exceptions, on which the question was argued, was tendered on the ground that the expressions used in the letter were unwarrantably strong—so strong as to afford evidence of actual malice, and to displace the claim to privilege. And on the argument in support of the exceptions it was contended that there was extrinsic evidence of malice on the part of the defendant apart from and beyond that arising from the terms of the letter itself.

After long argument, the Court decided in favour of the defendant. The judgment was pronounced by the Lord Chief Justice of England, who said it might well be that the language of what would, *prima facie*, be a privileged communication might be so violent as that, reference being had to the whole circumstances, an inference of actual malice might be drawn from it; and if that were the only question to be considered in this case, the Court would be disposed to give judgment in favour of the plaintiff. But it was necessary here to look at all the circumstances, and to see what really took place. The defendant was a creditor of the plaintiff's firm, and was interested in the winding up which was then being carried out; and it was in reference to that, that the letter was written. Although such a letter might, under certain circumstances, be proof of actual malice, yet here the defendant was interested, and therefore the occasion was privileged. That being so, added his lordship, the presumption of law is *prima facie* that there was no actual malice. In order to rebut that presumption

it is incumbent upon the plaintiff to show actual malice, and that he must do by showing that the terms of the libel are so utterly disproportionate to the occasion, and are, under the circumstances, such as to rebut the *prima facie* presumption of the absence of malice, which, under the circumstances, would otherwise exist. Now the plaintiff, in the course of his evidence, tending to show that the language was too strong, and therefore libellous and not privileged, disclosed a fact, namely, that he had himself, under circumstances capable of a perfectly innocent, but also equally capable of a very opposite construction being put upon his conduct, taken away from the cash box of the firm a considerable sum of money in bills and notes. The circumstances, then, under which the plaintiff did the act in question, being capable of this two-fold construction, may we not, and ought we not, fairly to assume that the defendant honestly believed in the truth of the particular view which he took of the transaction at the time when he wrote the letter? It may, no doubt, be that the plaintiff's act may have been done under such circumstances that the defendant would not have been warranted in believing, and cannot be thought to have honestly believed that, in taking these bills, the plaintiff acted dishonestly; while, on the other hand, his conduct is open to the construction that he took them under circumstances that would justify the defendant in believing, and under which he might fairly be assumed to have really and *bona fide* believed, that the plaintiff had therein acted dishonestly, and therefore disgracefully, in taking the bills away. The presumption of law, then, *prima facie* being that the letter was, under the circumstances, written without malice, and the only extrinsic evidence, tending to rebut that presumption, being an act of the plaintiff capable of the two-fold construction before alluded to, the presumption of the absence of malice on the part of the defendant, which attaches *prima facie* to the letter itself, must also, we think, prevail in the case of an act done by the plaintiff capable of such two-fold construction, and it must be presumed that the defendant, in whose favour the original presumption in point of law exists, took such a view of the plaintiff's conduct in the transaction as induced him honestly to believe that in doing the act in question, the plaintiff had been guilty of conduct which the defendant might fairly describe as "dishonest and disgraceful," and we think that that presumption, not being rebutted by any evidence to the contrary, ought to prevail in the defendant's favour throughout, and therefore that the learned judge at the trial, upon the whole, did right in ruling that there was no case to go to the jury, and that there was nothing to rebut the presumption of law which, under the circumstances, the Court ought to draw in the defendant's favour.

The exceptions were, therefore, overruled, and the ruling of Mr. Baron Martin was upheld, sustaining the verdict for the defendant.

DISQUALIFICATION OF GENTLEMEN CONNECTED WITH THE PRESS FROM HOLDING THE COMMISSION OF THE PEACE.

The following is the correspondence with reference to the case alluded to in the last number of the NEWSPAPER PRESS:

Provincial Newspaper Society,
Temporary Office, 112, Strand,
London, W.C., 18th August, 1869.

My Lord,—The Executive of the Provincial Newspaper Society, representing nearly two hundred of the principal journals of the United Kingdom, have been greatly surprised by the information that on a recent occasion, prior to the issue of a Commission of the Peace for the borough of Darlington, your Lordship's Secretary of Commissions, Mr. Halliburton Campbell, had written to Mr. Dunn, Town Clerk of that borough, relative to the proposed Commission, instructing him as to the persons to be recommended to your Lordship, that, "The list should not contain the names of gentlemen who are attorneys, or who are in any way connected with the wine, beer, or spirit trade, or the local Press of the borough."

As President of the Provincial Newspaper Society, I am requested by the Executive, at their meeting held this day in London, to ask for the information from your Lordship whether

'these instructions were issued by your Lordship's authority or with your concurrence; and whether such instructions are intended to be applicable to all cases or had reference only to the borough of Darlington.

The importance of this question to the members of the Provincial Newspaper Society must be my apology for thus troubling your Lordship, and I may state as a fact, that a very large number of newspaper proprietors are already in the Commission of the Peace for the counties and boroughs in which they reside; that others of them are mayors of their respective cities and boroughs, and in virtue of such appointment are *ex officio* magistrates.

A declaration from the Lord Chancellor that gentlemen connected with the local Press should be classed with attorneys, brewers, and dealers in liquors as disqualified from the Commission of the Peace, is a grievance which we feel your Lordship will at once rectify on these points being made known, as the proprietors of the public Press in the provinces of the United Kingdom have no duties to discharge which can in any way interfere with their independence as gentlemen when otherwise qualified to act on the judicial bench as magistrates.

An attorney may be objected to as being placed on the Commission of the Peace because his professional status enables him to appear as advocate before the bench of justices.

So as regards the holder of a wine, beer, or spirit licence, seeing that the licence is granted by the magistrates he could hardly form one of the bench. But the proprietor or editor of a newspaper has no duty or obligation which makes it objectionable that he should sit on the bench.

The whole of the provincial Press of the United Kingdom are deeply interested in this question, which I trust will receive your Lordship's kind consideration at your early convenience.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient Servant,
C. W. NAYLOR.

The Right Honourable the Lord Chancellor.

81, Great George Street, S.W.
August 27th, 1869.

Sir,—I am directed by the Lord Chancellor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th of this month, and to say that Mr. Halliburton Campbell acted according to the practice which was established before the Lord Chancellor held his present office, but that his Lordship will make the requisite inquiries on the subject, and then reply to your letter himself.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,
GORDON WHITBREAD,
Principal Secretary.

C. W. Naylor, Esq.

81, Great George Street, S.W.,
September 21st, 1869.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 18th August on behalf of the Provincial Newspaper Society, I requested my secretary to state to you that the rules to which the letter referred, with regard to the appointment of local magistrates for boroughs, were not, any of them, framed by me, but had been established by my predecessors in office. I further requested him to state that I would make further inquiry into the matter. I have now, through successive secretaries, traced the rules in question as far back as 1851, at which time Lord St. Leonards held the Great Seal, and the gentleman who was then his secretary has no reason to believe that the rules in question originated with his lordship. They have certainly been followed by the successive Chancellors since that time (Lords Campbell, Cranworth, Chelmsford, Westbury, and Cairns).

The usual course in an application to place gentlemen in the list has been to state the following regulations:—That they should not be—1, clergymen; 2, practising attorneys or solicitors; 3, in the wine, spirit, or beer trade; 4, connected with the local Press of the district.

You will easily see by this enumeration that no personal disrespect could be intended by the respective disqualifications, and as no clergymen, nor any solicitor, brewer, nor wine merchant has made a complaint on that ground, so I conclude that the dissatisfaction referred to by your letter is not as to discourtesy, but as to

policy, though one passage of your letter might seem to indicate the contrary.

The policy evidently seems in each case to be the same, viz., that the office of magistrate should be preserved from any suspicion, either of bias or other impropriety on the part of those who exercise its duties. The clergyman is also protected, in respect of his own calling, by removing him from secular labours.

The proprietor or editor of the local Press may not unfrequently be called upon to comment on the proceedings or conduct of the magistracy. I have no doubt, therefore, that whoever framed the rule, which is now for the first time complained of, felt that on the one hand the Press might be injured if its freedom of comment were impaired, and on the other hand, that the magistrates might be lowered, as well as the freedom of action fettered, if they had for their colleague one to whose anonymous criticisms they might be subjected. Further, such criticisms would be likely to occasion dissensions in the magistracy, to the detriment of the public service.

That the above rules have not been infringed, I cannot undertake to say; for I believe that, either through inadvertence, or from necessity (where any other fit person could not be found), several cases of such infringement may be pointed out as having occurred.

In conclusion, I may say that I shall be ready in November (when I return to town) to see you on the subject. But I do not feel disposed to dissent from regulations which have been for some time established, and acted upon without complaint, the reasons for the establishment of which I can understand and appreciate.

Yours faithfully,

G. W. Naylor, Esq.,
President of the Provincial Newspaper Society.

HATHERLEY.

Since the Darlington case another instance has occurred. The Town Council of Maidstone recommended four gentlemen to be added to the Commission of the Peace for that borough. Three of these nominations were accepted by the Lord Chancellor, but he "was unable to include" the name of Mr. Cutbush, of the *South-Eastern Gazette*, on account of that gentleman being connected with the local Press.

THE PRESS IN SAXONY.

PLUTARCH relates that when somebody told Antisthenes that Ismenias was a good flute-player, he exclaimed, "Then he must be a very bad man, for how else could he be a good flute-player?" *Mutatis mutandis*, and substituting the word journalist for flute-player, we can form some opinion of the estimation in which the Press is held in many parts of Germany, though perhaps a public avowal of it is only expressed by the members of the Upper House of the Prussian Parliament. It cannot, however, be denied that with the spread of civilisation and growth of liberal ideas a better class of intellect has been infused into the profession of journalists, who also, being men of education and even erudition, have done much to purify the German language and bring it up to its present high standard of expression and pliability, forming such a contrast to what it was in the time of Luther or even a century ago *temp.* Frederick the Great, who never spoke German where could make himself understood in French. Nor can it be denied that the great revolutionary struggles in Germany in 1830 and 1848 which established liberty of the Press—at least in principle—have done much for the education of the people by increasing their power, instigating them to take a greater interest in the political events of the day, not only in their fatherland, but in all countries, and developing their natural intelligence through the writings of men of talent who devote themselves to the task of elevating the masses by means of the daily Press.

Saxony is one of the oldest protagonists of the modern period for obtaining liberty of the Press, and when the present Arch-Chancellor of Austria was Prime Minister of Saxony, though he endeavoured officially to keep the Press within bounds, was privately most lenient in cases of Press offences. It might be said that he kept the gallows always ready for execution, and only permitted the journalists to roam about with a rope round their necks, so that they might be caught at any moment and be made to expiate their offences by summary punishment; but, never!

less, under the administration of Baron (now Count) von Beust, the hangman was ever cheated out of his fees of office.

It is, however, only since the great events of 1866 and the consolidation of North Germany as one great Federal Union that the Press in Saxony has assumed its present dimensions and learned how to vindicate its high position and humanising mission. And yet when compared with the Press in other countries it has still a deal to learn before it can be held up as a model to other States. One great feature in the Saxon Press is the absence of an official political paper of commanding importance and influence on public opinion. It is true that the Government has two special exponents of its policy in the *Dresdener Journal* and the *Leipziger Zeitung*, both of them undertakings that pay well in a pecuniary point of view, and likely to enjoy a long duration if conducted with only a moderate degree of talent. But the sun of the *Dresdener Journal* has long since passed the meridian when the initiated used to nod to each other signs of intelligence at seeing in print the policy enunciated the day before at the Council of State and expressed in glowing language and eloquent terms by the Prime Minister, for Herr von Beust well knew how to wield the pen. It is highly probable that the present correspondence on political subjects from Vienna which appears from time to time in the *Dresdener Journal* is more than what is understood by the term "inspired," and actually emanates from the brain and through the fingers of the Arch-Chancellor of the Empire himself. Be that as it may, it is beyond dispute that the political articles of the official organ no longer excite curiosity or interest, and still less have any influence on public opinion. And yet it has a comparatively very large circulation among all classes of the population, and it may with truth be said that its editors went through the ordeal of the Prussian occupation and behaved in that trying period with tact and consistency, as far as the latter was practicable. The absence of a competitor of good judgment and high connexions is a great feature in the success of the official journal.

Both of these elements have met due consideration and cultivation in the framing of politics laid down by the advocate Herr Siegel for his *Constitutionnelle Zeitung*, though it is startling to see with what energetic effect he sometimes mixes up plain-speaking with the traditional Saxon politeness; and this may be ascribed to the experiences of the American school through which one of the editors, Herr Kübel, has gone. Siegel was born in 1812 and is a son of a secretary to the Municipality of Leipzig. At an early age he evinced his love of letters, and when a student at the Gymnasium of his native city was a frequent contributor to the *Leipziger Tageblatt*, the *Planet*, and the *Abend Zeitung*, wrote subsequently for Blum's *Vaterlandsblätter*, and in 1840 undertook the editorship of the *Oschasser Wochenblatt*, one of the few Liberal local journals of that period. Having been appointed about that time to the office of member of the Municipal Council, he resigned it in 1847, as there was continual warfare going on between his duties as magistrate and journalist owing to the strict surveillance and censorship of the Press carried on by Baron von Falkenstein, at that time Minister for Education in the administration of Baron von Beust, and now Minister of the Interior. He therefore set up as an advocate, and was much employed in the defence of political actions and Press prosecutions. In 1848 he was elected member of the Second Chamber, where he supported the German Constitution and Frankfurt Parliament, voting, however, against the measures proposed by the "extreme left." He was then appointed editor of the *Dresdener Journal*, in which he defended the change in the politics of the Saxon Cabinet, which he himself had previously denounced as "tergiversation." In 1850 he resigned his appointment and founded the *New Dresden Journal* as an Opposition paper. But this was only short lived, being summarily suppressed by Baron von Beust. Siegel then founded the *Constitutionnelle Zeitung*, in which he has ever advocated the liberty of the subject and freedom of the Press with such judgment, energy, and tact, as to make it extremely popular, and its present circulation is inferior only to the *Leipziger Zeitung*. The catastrophe of 1866 served for a time to weaken his position, as he was in favour of the alliance with Prussia rather than with Austria; but since then the course of events has demonstrated that Saxony would have been preserved from many indignities, trials, and hardships,—to say nothing of the military occupation of the kingdom by the Prussians

and the war indemnity of thirty millions of dollars—had the Government listened to the recommendations enunciated by the *Constitutionnelle Zeitung*. In consequence of this its circulation rapidly fell off, but is now slowly regaining its lost position.

The most widely circulated paper in Saxony is the *Dresdener Nachrichten*, which is however more a cheap local journal than a political organ; but with its edition of 16,000 copies daily it is not without a certain influence on public opinion. It advocates the principles of the national Liberal party, but on the other hand it contains a standing correspondence from Berlin from the pen of the parliamentary reporter of the official journal savouring strongly of the confederative system, so that the readers may take their choice. How long such a double system can be profitably pursued, remains to be seen.

The Leipzig *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* published by Brockhaus, as well as the *Leipziger Illustrirte Zeitung* are both conducted in a liberal spirit and an evident leaning towards Prussia, which, however, does not prevent their occasionally falling into disgrace with the latter Government when criticising too severely the short comings of Prussian policy. On the other hand, the official *Leipziger Zeitung* maintains its policy of supporting the Saxon Government with sallies of wit, and frequently declaims against republican institutions by showing up the errors committed in the United States or making political capital out of its antipathy to Garibaldi when discoursing on the affairs of Italy. S.

ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPERS.

NEARLY a generation has passed since Herbert Ingram first realised his idea of illustrating the news of the week by means of wood engravings. The *Illustrated London News* has been throughout the whole of that period virtually without a rival, and it now stands pre-eminently as of yore at the head of its class throughout the world. Since the 14th of May, 1842, when the first number appeared, there have been many imitators, and a vast amount of capital, talent, and energy have been expended in endeavouring to compete successfully with this marvellous production, which has never stopped or faltered in its career of progress and of improvement. Every number shows evidence of that untiring care and great ability which has never failed it. Yet in the beginning, shrewd and clever folks said it would not do—that the idea was chimerical, and in practice, impossible; a prophecy that has only applied to the rivals of this well-known newspaper. Amongst the most vigorous of these rivals may be mentioned the *Pictorial Times*, which for a long period was distinguished for the excellence of its engravings. The *Illustrated News of the World* could never for a moment be compared with the *News*. Not so the short-lived *Pen and Pencil*, which was gracefully written and well illustrated; indeed, many of the engravings were evidently of French origin. The *Illustrated Times*, which now so well fills up the middle place in illustrated journals, has become the property of the proprietors of the *Illustrated London News*, who also own the *Penny Illustrated Newspaper*, so that virtually there is no opposition. There are, however, several American illustrated newspapers, which display great ability. There is an illustrated paper in Melbourne, and another in Sydney. The *Illustrated Australian News*, though not well printed, contains some excellent engravings of local scenery which render it interesting to strangers. It is obvious that illustrated newspapers came never become numerous, and in England at least it appeared that the ground was well occupied.

Yet, since our last impression, a new illustrated provincial journal has made its appearance in Birmingham under the title of *The Illustrated Midland News*. The first number appeared on September 4, and it has been continued on each succeeding Saturday. It is a very creditable production in every respect. The heading was designed by Leighton, and embodied a variety of vignettes of Midland buildings, and, of course, the emblematic figures of art and industry. The proprietors managed to anticipate by a week the *Illustrated London News* in the production of engravings of the magnificent Orphan Asylum at Erdington, presented by Josiah Mason, together with a striking portrait of that gentleman. But, except in this instance, there has been no opposition in the established journals. Indeed, many of the en-

gravings are evidently French stereotypes, and hitherto the projectors have not engraved more than one or two local events. It requires a well-organised staff of engravers to do this quickly and well; and so meritorious a speculation should not be judged by the absence of what must take time to produce. The aim of the projectors is to illustrate the trade of the district, and in this they will find ample scope amid the workshops of Birmingham and the black country; not to mention the flourishing and rapidly-increasing town of Leicester. The ultimate success of this novel venture must depend on its local attractions, and these, though not inexhaustible, will, if carefully worked, stand them in good stead for some time to come. At present there is an apparent absence of this local feeling and interest, as well as a want of solidity, if we may use the term, about the appearance of the paper, which a little more technical knowledge would obviate. The staff of the paper is excellent. Mr. Joseph Hatton, the author of "Bitter Sweets;" "Christopher Kendrick," (which, by-the-by, is a Press novel) is the editor and responsible proprietor. Mr. Edward Legge, whose graceful rhymes appear occasionally in the metropolitan magazines, is the sub-editor. Mr. Walter Maynard (Willert Beale) contributes a serial story; Blanchard Jerrold (Fin-Bee) a paper on continental manufacture. Mr. Hatton, who is also the editor of the *Gentleman's Magazine* and the editor and one of the proprietors of *Berrow's Worcester Journal*, resigns his post as editor of the latter journal, and Mr. Legge has also left the "Faithful City" to cast his fortunes with the new venture. Need we say that we wish this "novelty in provincial journalism" every success, and, if successful, Edinburgh and Manchester will doubtless follow the example.

BOURGEOIS.

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

XI.—THE READING MERCURY.

PERHAPS amongst all the provincial journals there is not one which has kept truer to its title of the "Berks County Paper" than the *Reading Mercury*. It is essentially a county paper, for nothing that can interest a Berkshire man, from the scouring of the "White Horse" to the restoration of the old Castle of Windsor, is omitted from its columns. Each community is fully represented week by week, and finds all that is noteworthy, as well as a careful and comprehensive digest of the general news of the week. Other journals have their special features, but the *Reading Mercury* does not at first sight present one feature more than another whereby it can be characterised, for its aim apparently is completeness. Like many old papers, leading articles in the modern sense of the term are avoided. No opinions are obtruded as a part of the paper's mission, but whenever occasion requires, a few terse, well-considered lines express the almost judicial opinion of the editor, or briefly sum up a local controversy. All the news is carefully classified and the marks of careful editing are visible from the title to the imprint.

In point of age the *Reading Mercury* ranks sixth in the United Kingdom. It made its first appearance in the month of June, 1722, though the date usually assigned for its establishment is February in 1728. At this early period of its history the production of a provincial newspaper was a task of no ordinary difficulty. The first copies of the journal are consequently of Lilliputian dimensions, and do not differ from the ordinary news-letters and Mercuries of the day, the four pages of which it was then composed measuring only seven inches by nine. During six reigns, from George I. to Victoria, the *Reading Mercury* has continued to extend in dimensions, influence, and circulation, and is now the largest journal in the south-west of England, for it contains 56 columns of closely-printed matter, presenting an area of sixteen square feet of news and advertisements. It is not a matter of wonder that it commands a yearly circulation of 250,000 copies, notwithstanding that it has maintained its original price. It may be mentioned as a remarkable fact that the paper has remained in the family of the present proprietors (Messrs. Cowslade) in unbroken succession for a period of more than a century and a quarter.

B.

THE MYSTERY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

READ BEFORE THE PRESS CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 15, 1869, BY THOMPSON WESTCOTT.

TIME was when there was no Associated Press. In those happy days a peaceful serenity settled over the limited expanse of journalism. The editor then was like the shopkeeper, who waited behind his counter for customers. It was not for him to run about in search of items, or to agitate himself lest some rival sheet should get ahead of him in a matter of news. If the rival should be thus successful it made no odds—he could copy the account. If the news were really worth anything, he flattered himself that it would be brought to him; and so he remained in his office, kept his scissors sharpened, his paste-pot in good order, and dozed away in the intervals of his exciting employment, happy in the belief that he was a solid, sober, substantial citizen, known and respected for his learning and his influence.

Beginning before the Revolution, when the mail between New York and Philadelphia was transported once a week, and occupied two days in travel, and coming down to so recent a period as twenty years ago, the transportation of news was a slow process. News that the Stamp Act was repealed in England on the 18th of March, 1766, was received in Philadelphia on the 20th of May in the same year, having been eight weeks in crossing the ocean. The battles of Lexington and Concord were fought on the 18th of April, 1775. It was not until the 24th, six days afterwards, that imperfect intelligence of those engagements arrived in Philadelphia.

On the 19th of October, 1781, Cornwallis surrendered to Washington at Yorktown; but papers at Philadelphia did not receive the news by special aid-de-camp until November 24th. On the 24th of December, 1814, the Treaty of Ghent was signed. But news of that treaty was not received in this country until the 12th of February, 1815.

As the country increased, methods of facilitating the transmission of news by horse expresses were devised, and by previous arrangement of relays, and fresh riders, speed was very much increased. During the war between the United States and Mexico, this plan was brought to something like perfection, and news in eighteen hours from Washington to Philadelphia was frequently obtained.

Under the management of the electro magnetic telegraph, which, although a most useful, was, nevertheless, a very dear means of transmission of news, the expenses of journalism were much increased; and it soon became evident that unless some means of economy were devised, many old and respectable newspapers would either have to be discontinued, or to lag in a certain degree behind their more enterprising neighbours. This led to an attempt, among persons who had some knowledge of the wants of the Press, to undertake the business of news brokerage, and to furnish news by telegraph from all parts of the country. These incipient Reuters served their purpose. They were perhaps as accurate as the Associated Press now is, and they would, if let alone, have had opportunities to become rich and influential; but they were utterly undone by the more powerful combination of the Associated Press.

The Associated Press promises much, and fulfils little. It undertakes to give us the news, which is really of importance, transpiring all over the world. The theory is, that it will furnish to the Press well-written, concise, and reliable despatches, giving everything that can be of interest to the public; but whenever any news, that really is news, is on hand, there are extra charges. The ordinary mission of the Associated Press is to inform us that Mr. Hawbuck's barn, in Bumpkinville, was burned down last night, and that he lost one calf and three sucking pigs; or, that Mr. Tompkins, of Slabtown, while standing at his own door, was knocked down and very seriously injured by Timothy Hardcheek, of Squankum; or, that the roof of Farmer Simpkins' pigsty fell in last night, in consequence of the weight of snow upon it. Items like these might, perhaps, be accepted as news, were it not that they are entitled to drawback. No person having any knowledge of the ways of the Associated Press would dare to form an opinion as to the real nature of the misfortunes of Messrs. Hawbuck, Tompkins, or Simpkins. He would naturally expect that

the Associated Press would do another day's business, and earn another day's charges, by contradicting what had been formerly stated. He would confidently expect to receive despatches which would inform him that it was not Hawbuck's barn that was burned in Bumkinville, but Wax's shoe-shop, and that the calf and sucking pigs were uninjured; that it was not Tompkins, of Slabtown, that was assaulted by Hardcheek, but that Hardcheek was actually the victim of the assault, and Tompkins the vile offender; and that it was not the roof of Simpkins' pig-sty which fell in, but the roof of the Methodist meeting-house. Fully one-half of the business of the Associated Press is correcting its own mistakes; and the coolness with which its blunders are made and charged for, is really astonishing. We might, indeed, stand the errors of this propagator of rumours, if there was liberality about its management. It gives you lean usually, but if it has any fat there is always an extra charge. Thus, the Cable news and Congress news are extra. The doings of the State Legislatures are held not to be matters of importance to the newspapers, and the Associated Press does not furnish them. If anybody delivers an important speech anywhere, the Associated Press, which would give you a report of it as freely as it would its misrepresentations of the misfortunes of Hawbuck, Tompkins, and Simpkins, dickers with you on the subject, and offers to furnish the report if you are willing to pay so much more.

A very grave cause of complaint against the Associated Press is, that it is poorly served. Many of its agents are incompetent; being so deficient in judgment that they really do not know what, among transpiring events, are of sufficient importance to warrant that news of them shall be sent by telegraph, or printed after it is received. The Cable correspondent in England gives us full and glowing details of horse-races, and cuts off the political news, showing great changes, or expectation of changes, in European affairs, with brief mention. Every steamer brings us, in the European papers, intelligence of events of importance, which the Associated Press agent in England could not perceive to be of any interest whatever. As an example, we may cite the recent case of Reverdy Johnson and the English working-men. The latter had proposed to give a special banquet in honour of the American Minister; but, discovering that his course in England had made him very unpopular in the United States, they withdrew the invitation upon that account. The correspondent of the Associated Press saw nothing in this remarkable "out" to the American Minister which was necessary for him to notice; and so he merely sent us a statement that the Working-men's Dinner had been abandoned, without stating the reason why, which would have shown how pointedly and unpleasantly our misrepresentative at the Court of St. James had been snubbed.

The Associated Press agents in this country are understood to be agents of Reuter, the telegram broker in Europe, and English readers are as poorly served as we are here. As an instance, it may be stated that the person in this country who sent to England a synopsis of the last message of President Johnson, either overlooked, or was unable to understand, the meaning of that passage which advocated the repudiation of the National Debt. He, therefore, sent his dispatch, pretending to recite what the main points in the message were, without noticing this most important of all of them. When, immediately afterward, a resolution was passed by Congress, indignantly denouncing such doctrines as were enunciated by Mr. Johnson, the same correspondent incautiously sent across the water intelligence of that fact. It excited much surprise. The English public did not know what to make of it; and the wonder was great as to the cause of such a manifestation.

This was a matter of interest and importance to every holder of American bonds in Europe; and yet the agent of the Cable was either so stupid, or so prejudiced, that he could not or would not understand the relevancy of that fact.

What is the Associated Press? It is represented to be an association of publishers of New York, who have combined together for the purpose of obtaining news by telegraph from all over the world. According to the tenor of a notice given by the American Telegraph Company to the New York Associated Press, in August last, the Association was then composed of the following persons:—James Brooks and Erastus Brooks, proprietors of the *New York Express*; Prime, Stone, Hale & Halleck, proprietors of the *New York Journal of Commerce*; James G. Bennett, proprietor of the

New York Herald; Manton Marble, proprietor of the *World*; Moses Y. Beach, proprietor of the *New York Sun*; Henry J. Raymond & Co., proprietors of the *New York Times*, and the Tribune Association, proprietors of the *New York Tribune*.

These individuals have combined together to do what? Theoretically, they are joined for the purpose of obtaining news from all parts of the world; but, practically, they are an association of customers, who receive whatever their agents decree. The agents of the Associated Press are really the masters of the Associated Press. If a number of persons residing or doing business in a certain neighbourhood should unite in the choice of a cook and caterer, and assure him that they would take their meals from him, and pay him if he provided them with ham, hash, and salt mackerel daily, without disputing his bills, they would occupy about the same relative position to the keeper of the restaurant as the Associated Press occupies toward the agent of the Associated Press.

These great newspapers really have not the time to station, manage, and control responsible and reliable agents wherever they are needed. They are compelled to accept and to agree to whatever the agent does; and he is really the master of the whole machine, and the ruler of the Associated Press. He makes what arrangement he pleases, and charges what he pleases; and the mission of the Associated Press seems to be to continue this monopoly, against which no journal can protest with any hope of being successful in its opposition.

The New York Associated Press, at an early period in its history, finding that the sum which its caterer charged was very heavy, conceived the idea that the expenses might be greatly reduced by allowing the Press of other cities to purchase the news which its agent might furnish, at rates to be agreed upon. Under this policy, certain journals in Philadelphia were admitted to the so-called privilege. They agreed to this proposition, and have bought the news from the agent of the Associated Press ever since. They were in the position of persons allowed to come into the restaurant, and enjoy a portion of the fare prepared for the original participants in the feast. The privilege accorded by the New York Associated Press was generous. It might have been denied altogether, and the journals published in other parts of the country would either have been compelled to make their own combinations to obtain news, or have been condemned to use the intelligence published in New York, a day, or days, after date. Under this liberality, the journals of Philadelphia have been allowed to become purchasers of news from the Associated Press.

JOURNALISM IN VICTORIA.

In a recent number of the *Newspaper Press*, a contributor gave our readers an exhaustive history of journalism in Western Australia. At present we have no such complete information regarding the Press in the sister colonies, but, from a recent work on Australia, by Mr. E. Carton Booth, entitled "Another England," we extract the following account of contemporary journalism in Victoria:—"Of periodical publications of one kind and another, including newspapers, magazines (religious or otherwise), Bradshaw's Guides, professional—that is, medical and legal—journals, Government gazettes, and law lists, there are exactly one hundred published in Victoria. The newspaper, pure and simple, occupies, of course, the first place, and the species includes a great variety of kinds. There is the highly correct and strictly orthodox metropolitan daily paper, the 'Thunderer of the South,' that has before now taken occasion to warn the 'Great Thunderer of Printing-house-square' to look to its laurels and 'beware.' There are two other thunderers, not quite so correct in journalistic orthodoxy, but not one whit more modest, and quite as reliable. Then there are half-a-dozen up-country daily papers, equally good in their way as their big brethren of the metropolis, and the balance is made up of papers, good, bad, and indifferent, useful or otherwise, as the circumstances by which they are surrounded may order. . . . 'Herald, Age, and Argus,' are sounds to which the visitor to, or resident in Melbourne soon becomes familiar. They are bellowed from every street-corner, and softly whispered in places where the proprieties prevail. One or other, or, oftener still, the whole of the papers bearing these names, are

to be found by seven o'clock in the morning in the coffee-rooms of the various hotels, and in the sitting-rooms of private houses. Men gather round the offices from which they are issued, and carefully scan the advertisements in each. These free readers seldom evince much interest in the politics preached in the 'leaders.' The 'wants' and the rumours of a new rush are the first things looked for by this class of the patrons of the Press. The sales by auction are carefully scanned by the 'Children of Israel,' who affect buying and selling as a means of making a living. To the numbers who crowd into Melbourne from their country-houses every morning, the 'shipping intelligence' and the 'markets' are the chief points of interest, whilst the idle and the desultory fill up the fragments of the day with the police reports, and, in the session, the parliamentary intelligence.

"The arrival of every English mail is a perfect mine of wealth, if not for newspaper proprietors, at any rate for newspaper sellers. Then locomotion through the principal streets is rendered difficult from the number of boys who dash recklessly along the footpaths, bearing on their arms huge piles of papers, and hallooing at the top of their voices, 'Hargus, Hage, 'Erald, 'stronary! Latest news from England!' On these occasions the papers are issued at half or quarter their usual size, and charged double or quadruple their ordinary price. Price has no effect whatever on the circulation: given a cry of the 'Arrival of the English Mail,' and every one with sixpence in his pocket immediately exchanges it for a copy of the paper first to hand. The receipt of the first portions of this news is always hardly fought for by the three metropolitan papers, each paper has its own boat's crew and boat waiting for the arrival of the steamer, and then there is a race between the representatives of the papers for the nearest telegraph office. The wires once engaged the fight is virtually over, and the winner has the melancholy satisfaction of paying more money than his competitors.

"The out-going of each English mail is productive of nearly as great an excitement as its arrival. On these occasions the whole of the metropolitan and several of the provincial newspapers publish a 'summary for Europe.' When 'newspaper summaries for England' first became a fashion they were exactly what they professed to be, readable abstracts of the month's news, calculated to inform English readers on the affairs of the colony. These narratives of news were well-arranged histories of the events of colonial life, and were valuable in proportion to the talent and care bestowed upon their compilation. They gave to the English reader a life-like description of events that can never fail to possess a lively interest for a very large proportion of people. They told in plain terms and understandable language, the common doings of Englishmen who were forming another England far away from the motherland—all the toils and struggles, the fortunes and failures of six hundred thousand people, who had left behind them in the old country twenty times that number of friends interested in their welfare, many of whom were desirous of following in their footsteps. These summaries, in their early days, presented a fair picture of the fight for life entered into by the colonists. Every incident they related had a tangible and life-like interest for thousands besides those whose careers they chronicled, and they were sources of comfort, consolation, and instruction to the abiders at home.

"After a time the summaries lost much of their old character for simple detail and narrative. They were made the vehicles for the circulation of political opinions, and their value as sources of information decreased. Instead of a simple record of facts they became the medium of expressed opinions, and these opinions have always been made subservient to political prejudices and interested comment. The most common occurrence was perverted for political purposes, and this not by papers attached to particular political parties only, but by the 'summary writing' Press of Victoria. To the credit of the up-country journals, it may be said that they were less addicted to this vice than their more pretentious brethren of the metropolis. The evil has continued to grow until 'the summary of news for home readers' of the Melbourne newspapers is simply a gigantic leader, filled with laudations of one or other of the political parties in the colony, and 'bristling' with reckless assertions as to the doings of their opponents. Nor are erroneous reasoning and simple misstatement the only evil things indulged in for the sake of furthering party purposes; not alone

are facts distorted and circumstances misstated, but the most flagrant misrepresentations of both appear to have become necessities of every summary sent home. The welfare of the country is made subordinate to the position of a party, and the integrity of journalism is sacrificed to political popularity.

"Whilst thus failing to exercise, even in a degree, the influence fully possessed by the newspapers of England—failing, it may be, simply for the want of that tact and experience that leads the English journalist to reflect rather than to lead public opinion—the Melbourne journals cannot be charged with lacking any of the excellences and appliances requisite for the ordinary purveyor of news. Their reporting staffs are efficient, their leader-writers smart, whilst the excellence of their sub-editing often makes amends for the errors of judgment committed by the ruling powers of the offices. The arrangement of matter is convenient, and, politics apart, selected with the intention of informing and instructing their readers.

"These excellences are perhaps more apparent in the weekly than the daily Melbourne papers. The *Herald*—save that once a month, on the departure of each mail, it publishes an illustrated paper that compares favourably with any newspaper of its class in the world—is content with a daily issue only, the *Age* and *Argus* each publishing a weekly paper, containing copious extracts from their daily columns, as well as much valuable original matter. These weekly newspapers answer several very useful purposes. First of all, they are convenient to those who, from isolation of position or other circumstances, cannot easily receive a daily paper. They contain useful and entertaining reading, sometimes deemed unmeet for the strictly utilitarian modern newspaper, but of use in the family circle nevertheless. They are full and elaborate records of the every-day circumstances of the world, and form books of reference on subjects that might otherwise be unnoticed or forgotten. Besides these services rendered to its readers, the weekly newspaper is valuable to the daily broadsheet, of which it is an offshoot. It first of all gives the 'set type' or 'stereo' an opportunity of being doubly useful, and making money twice over; it acts as a capital foil for the shortcomings, 'errors, and omissions' of its more demonstrative daily fellow. Thus, if the *Argus*, with the excitement consequent upon a protracted debate in the 'House,' comes out with a 'slashing' article on Thursday morning, the sores created can all be seen to and soothed in the *Australasian* on Saturday. If the *Argus* describes the representative of her Majesty the Queen in the colony as the 'willing tool of an unscrupulous faction,' the 'special reporter' of the *Australasian* has a capital opportunity for testifying to the 'elegant hospitalities' dispensed at Toorak, and the genial manner and gentlemanly bearing of its occupant.

"The *Age* is equally apt, and takes full advantage of the *Leader* being published on Saturday, to repair some of the damages committed by itself during the week. Although the *Age* may have denounced, in scathing language, the evil-doing of a 'purse-proud aristocracy,' and shaken—in a Pickwickian sense—the squatter's stock-whip over the squatter's shoulders, preparatory to driving him over the Murray—the lower Murray, if possible, for there the scrub is densest and the country least hospitable—the *Leader* can sing sweet pastorals on Saturday, and tell of the simple tastes and homely manners of those who feed their flocks in the far bush. All this may be merely a game of literary shuttlecock, but it answers its purpose admirably.

"On the whole, the Melbourne weekly Press fulfils its mission well, and the *Australasian* would be esteemed a model family newspaper in any city in the world.

THE BOAT-RACE TELEGRAMS.—The extraordinary feat of sending the result of the boat race to the New York journals within 23 minutes of the finish has been generally noticed, but coupled with an error. The message was said to have been taken to the Mortlake telegraph station on horseback, whereas it was carried by a fast runner in the service of the Electric Telegraph Company, named Lewington, but popularly known as "Electric Jack."

W. L. RZA, a leader writer on the *Daily News* and the *Pall Mall Gazette*, has been spending a few days in New York, and has now gone to Boston. He hopes to "do" the country, including a visit to San Francisco, and be ready to start back in two months.—*Anglo-American Times*.

THE CORRESPONDENTS' COLUMN.

(From the *Sphinx*.)

THE correspondents' column is a delightful study of human nature. Observe how every other writer doses the editor with complimentary boluses in the way of "valuable paper," "able article," "powerful pen," "influential circulation," all in order to increase his dubious chances of getting inserted. Remark how persons who have been attacked have always had "their attention called to a paragraph," or "an article brought to their notice," and invariably "did not see the observations till informed of them"—loth to confess themselves guilty of anything so low as the perusal of a newspaper which has been scurrilous enough to impugn their doings. Notice, also, by what a large number of persons an editor is looked upon as a sort of "Encyclopædia Britannica," whose mission is to settle bets for them, or give them legal advice for the honour of assisting them instead of six-and-eight-pence. But the most amusing feature of all is the absurd grievances, the impracticable suggestions, the endeavours to be sharp, and the overweening self-conceit of the writer to the papers. By no means do we include all correspondents in this silly category. Some are really useful, and some really witty; and there are few things more encouraging to a professional writer than to find his efforts appreciated, his opinions backed up, and his endeavours fostered by an intelligent suite of correspondents. But he seldom has that pleasure. Most correspondents, in newspapers at least, are little better than grievance-mongers afflicted with the itch of authorship. And indeed the correspondents' column affords a safety-valve to much pent-up emotion, which otherwise might do the sufferer under it a serious injury. It goes off with a loud noise, and does nobody any harm, except when it is signed with the victim's real name, in which case it sometimes makes him look ridiculous. As for the grievance, it is gone. Where is it, when the grievance-monger sees his darling lucubration invested with the glories of type? He buys a dozen copies of the paper, reads it aloud in the bosom of his family, alludes slightly to it to every friend he happens to meet—or rather, meets on purpose—cuts it out, pastes it in the family scrap-book, and sends a copy to his brother in Australia.

SLANG-WHANGING JOURNALISM.

(From the *New York Citizen*.)

THIS is an age of questioning, and those who deplore a given abuse have always the consolation of knowing that sooner or later the slow but irresistible force of public opinion will demand the reason of its existence, and ordain that it be either justified or abolished. We think it a very wholesome sign that so many intelligent people are beginning to make this inquiry about a style of newspaper writing which has had much popularity but is now getting stale, and which, for lack of better description, we call "Slang-whanging" Journalism. The style in question might be described as the product of a conspiracy on the part of the ignorant, the tasteless, and the stupid to thrust common sense, decent education, and honest thought to the wall, and to fill the columns of newspapers with stuff wherein none of these three elements has any share. The theory on which the conspiracy is founded, and by which it is defended, appears to be something like this: The masses of the people have little or no education and a great deal of vanity; the object is to gain those masses for readers; therefore let us appeal to their ignorance and flatter their vanity. Put in another way, the theory is that the people are so lazy that they will not think, so gross that they care only for slang, and so malignant that they have an unbounded stomach for personal abuse and acrimonious contention. From these choice principles and the conspicuous success of some of their most noted exponents have arisen most of the characteristics of Slang-whanging Journalism; the characteristics whose value the community are beginning to challenge, and which, after a long season of bloom and prosperity, are now therefore on the eve of falling into decay.

Slang-whanging Journalism has been almost Protean in its shapes and phases, but these can almost always be traced to a common source, and professors of the art have invariably a decided family likeness. Your writer who is continually dinning into your

ears that the people like "spicy and trenchant" articles, that they fancy what is "short and crisp," "brilliant and gossippy," "terse and to the point," who is very fond of clipping old words or inventing new ones, who speak of actors' "renditions" of parts, and who is, in general, obviously anxious to be considered a remarkably knowing and energetic person, is, be sure, a Slang-whanging Journalist. In private life he may be by no means a vindictive sort of fellow, but he attributes to the public so insatiable a passion for vituperation, for indecent personal liberties, for sententious jeers, scandals, "on dits," "shavings," "peelings," "whittlings," "sparkles," and the like tid-bits of literary swill, that he is saturated through and through with love and sympathy for such stuff, and with a belief which fire cannot melt out of him that it is the only nourishing journalistic pabulum. Now there is not the least doubt that point and brevity and condensation are most valuable qualities in a newspaper, and that so far as an individual character can, with justice and taste, be given to its columns, such a character adds to its attraction and sometimes to its usefulness. We must all own that "heavy" writing is not relished by general readers, and that the literary tendency of the day runs to point and epigram. But the great error of Slang-whanging Journalists is that they mistake the shadow for the substance, the costume for the actor, the husk for the nut. They imagine that if an article is "short" it must follow, as the light the day, that it is also "sharp and decisive." They mistake slang for wit, coarseness for strength, iteration for emphasis, stupid contractions and elisions for adroitness and humour, and dirty personality for pungent satire. The substantial effect of their system consists, first, in the corruption of the popular taste, second, in a ludicrously unjust discrimination against brains and scholarship in the profession of journalism, and third, in the degradation of that profession in social rank and influence in exact proportion to the other two. Now it is proper to insist that it does not tend to the elevation of the Press to spoil good hod-carriers and capable husbandmen to make bad editors. The Slang-whanging Journalists are not fit for their vocation in any broad or catholic sense; they are only adapted to a feverish and ephemeral phase of it. It is incident to the progress of journalism in this vast and splendid new country that it should pass through an era of provincialism, of raw youth, of pimply and eruptive adolescence; when the puerile stage is safely passed we may confidently look for a higher stage of calm, strong, thoroughly-trained and self-poised manhood.

THE NEWSPAPERS, &c., REPEAL ACT.

(From the *Solicitors' Journal*.)

THIS Act also repeals the sections of the 6 & 7 Will. IV., c. 76, which were intended to assist the proof of publication in actions of libel, and which have been largely used for that purpose.

By the last mentioned Act, as is well known, a declaration must be delivered to the Commissioners of Stamps, signed by the publishers, printers, and proprietors of every newspaper, containing a statement of its title and place of publication, and of the names of the publishers, &c. A certified copy of this declaration is evidence of the truth of everything stated in it against the persons signing it. And the production of such certificate and of a newspaper bearing the same title, &c., is sufficient proof of publication of the latter by the person signing the declaration. All this is now repealed, and the old difficulty, once so keenly felt, of proving the publication of a libel in a newspaper is revived.

The Act, it is true, re-enacts the section which requires a printer to put his name on what he prints; and that which compels anyone to answer a bill of discovery, filed to assist an action of libel, by discovering the printers, publishers, or proprietors of a newspaper. But the framers of the Act have omitted to take the very simple course which would have made this last section really effectual. If they had said not only that defendants should answer a bill of discovery in equity, but should also answer interrogatories in a common law action of libel, much would have been done. At present a defendant can refuse at law to answer such interrogatories, on the ground that he would expose himself to criminal proceedings; and if so, the plaintiff must go to the Court of Chancery to get the very same questions answered.

LADY JOURNALISTS.

(From the *New York Citizen*.)

No sooner is a newspaper started for the benefit or under the control of women, than its female contributors hasten to discuss themes that are hardly named even among men. The less fit the subject for discussion, the more determined these women are to discuss it. The most sacred privacy of the marriage relation is at once made the topic for every unpractised pen. Things of which no modest woman will dream of speaking, even to her own sister, are mentioned and commented on without the slightest hesitation by these honest advocates of female purity. Physical troubles, which a woman will hardly confide to a physician when her life depends upon his advice and assistance, are discussed in the columns of women's newspapers with as little hesitation as are the diseases of horses in the columns of a sporting journal. Unmarried women write of the duties of wives, and while they abuse the conduct of men in the marriage relation, touch upon topics of which they should blush to proclaim their knowledge. For absolute, total disregard of all the restraints of propriety, there is nothing in professedly decent literature to compare with the newspapers conducted with strong-minded women. In the undisguised, unhesitating indecency with which they discuss the most unmentionable subjects, the writers of these journals have no rivals in the ranks of male journalists.

And the most singular circumstance connected with the matter is the unquestionable fact that these female writers of indecent articles are really honest and virtuous women, who—except when they attempt to reform journalism—are as modest and pure-minded as most of their sex. Yet these same modest women write articles which no gentleman would wish to read aloud in the presence of another man. How they can bring themselves to do it is a mystery.

For them, whatever is improper seems to have a strange fascination. Let them start a paper to advocate female suffrage, and inevitably a large space in its columns will be devoted to the one topic which other papers dare not touch. The contributors cannot keep their pens from discussing it, and the editors cannot keep the indecent contributions out of their columns. Can any one tell why a modest, sensible woman cannot contribute to a journal devoted to the interests of her sex, without writing in a way in which she would permit no other woman to speak to her? Will some one explain why she is unable to advocate female suffrage without giving, at the same time, her views on topics of which the most depraved of her sex would hesitate to speak?

AN ARISTOCRATIC PRINT.—You must have noticed boards at railway stations inviting your attention to "A First-Class Evening Paper." Has it not occurred to you that this advertisement is rather too exclusive, and likely to injure, instead of improve, the sale of the paper, by deterring second and third-class passengers, the most numerous of the travelling community, from becoming purchasers?—*Punch*.

ATTEMPT TO BRIBE THE "TIMES."—The *Times* appends the following note to its report of the Norwich Festival:—"Mr. Barclay, who gives no address, except London, and who has insulted our musical reporter at Norwich by writing him a letter enclosing £20 in notes, in order to influence his criticism on some of the performances at the festival, is desired to call at our office for those notes, which will be delivered to him after he has described them, and given their numbers and his address." Mr. Barclay, whoever he may be, has, of course, been treated by the *Times* as he would have been by any other rightly conducted journal. Had he been reading the accounts of elections at Bridgwater and Beverley till he supposed that all opinion could be bought and sold as easily as some political support? To send a man £20 to induce him to tell what may be a deliberate lie is an insult of no common order; but we are glad of an incident which may serve to dissipate a notion to be found among very ignorant people, that the English Press is easily to be "managed" by such "donations" as that of Mr. Barclay. To Mr. Barclay himself we commend the proverb that "a man who thinks that money can do every thing may be suspected of doing anything for money."—*Echo*.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, September 27.

Now that the metropolitan and provincial Press have had time to reflect on the general amnesty granted for all political and Press offences as a propitiation for the severity hitherto exercised against the Liberal journalists, and that they have all expressed their opinions of this act of clemency or justice, according to their individual proclivities, it is quite possible to sum them up and strike a balance; and I do not hesitate to say that the balance is a favourable one, for all the larger journals and most of the minor ones, both in town and country, fully appreciate the importance of the measure, and feel grateful for the boon, the more so that it came so very unexpectedly. To transmit you copious extracts from the French papers on this subject would only needlessly be filling up the columns of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*; I therefore confine myself to giving you a short summary of what the *Constitutionnel* wrote on the subject: "The amnesty is the complement and corollary of the Imperial message and the *Senatus Consultum*, as well as a pledge that the existing liberal laws will in future be administered with a liberal interpretation. The experience of the last few years has sufficiently demonstrated how unavailing and impotent are all attempts to bridle and gag the Press by prosecutions and repressive measures amounting to downright cruelty, though M. Baroche, as long as he was Minister of Justice, was as watchful, firm, and resolute as it was possible to be. Press prosecutions had multiplied to an alarming extent, and with what result? At each prosecution the journals raised their voices to a higher pitch, and the tone of their discussions became louder and more violent. Instead of frightening them into servility and obsequiousness it only increased their exasperated opposition; and what is still worse, former opponents and those who advocated moderate measures were changed into adherents and allies, now found supporting opinions and principles they themselves had hitherto controverted and condemned. The amnesty will now happily remove all traces of these violent battles and ebullitions of passion, and whilst the organs of the extreme opposition can no longer claim sympathy by representing themselves as martyrs to the cause of liberty, the independent Press will feel themselves again in a position to declaim against the unjust demands of the radical and revolutionary writers, which under the late circumstances and with a legitimate conviction that they could not defend the severity of the Government measures, with all their *esprit-de-corps* they were unable to do, and felt more inclined to support them to a certain extent. We cannot doubt that the amnesty will tend to calm the angry passions in the Press and public opinion, and create a better feeling and more confidence in the government of the Emperor."

The *Journal des Débats* points out that the liberty of the Press which France now enjoys *de facto* rather than *de jure* has not placed the Government in any unpleasant dilemma, and lays stress on the fact with satisfaction, but without astonishment, that the great majority of the French papers are conducted in a dignified tone, and the questions of the day discussed with calmness and impartiality. Only a very small minority contain venomous attacks and enter into despicable polemical discussions in a style and spirit that must disgust all honest and well-educated readers. But they bark in vain, and do themselves more injury than harm to the Government.

The semi-official *Constitutionnel* of the 23rd inst. contains a leading article written by its chief editor, M. Robert Mitchell, in which he requires the Government to bring in a bill for trial by jury of all Press offences. He founds his demand on the experience gained since the publication of the amnesty, for ever since that epoch Press prosecutions have not been heard of, and no complaints are made of disorders or misdemeanors. He, personally, would prefer to see all punishments for Press offences abolished, and the extravagances of individual journals held up to public scorn; but as it is the prevalent feeling of the French not to recognise any freedom but that contained in the written code, the right of judgment ought to be left to public opinion, which would always be safe to return a true and impartial verdict, as they did during

the late disturbances in June, when the people took the law into their own hands and belaboured the mob with their sticks and fists till peace and order were restored.

The provincial Press have held a meeting at Lyons and agreed to a programme of the reforms to be first demanded. Among these are the repeal of Art. 75, which protects officials from legal prosecutions, the suppression of the remainder of the Safety Law, liberty of education, the right of association, the election of mayors by the people, the emancipation of the administration of the communes, and a redistribution of the electoral districts on the basis of their division into arrondissements.

The *Moniteur des Tirages*, a newspaper with which is connected a very lucrative banking and bill business, has been purchased by a consortium of German bankers—among whom are the houses of Erlanger and Reinach—for the sum of 880,000*fr.*

The *Finance*, another commercial paper, hitherto the property of M. Crampon, who amassed great wealth by the bonds of the Trans-Continental Railway, has been sold to M. Eugène Rotland, proprietor of the *Messager de Paris*, who intends to give the chief editorship to his son-in-law, M. Jean Jaques Weiss, hitherto editor of the *Journal de Paris*.

M. Jules Amigues, at present on the editorial staff of the *Moniteur*, is making preparations to bring out a journal of his own. It is to be called by the ominous name of *La République*, but though it will advocate republican institutions, it will not go the length of recommending their introduction by means of a revolution.

The *Gaulois* announces that M. Vancel is about to start a new paper called *Le Tribun du Peuple*. It will appear twice a day, the morning edition to be literary, and in the evening a political journal.

A deputation of clerks and manipulators in the telegraph office waited last week on M. Francisque Sarcey, of the *Gaulois*, and presented him with a bronze bust of Voltaire in token of their approbation of his writings in that paper.

On the 21st inst., being the seventy-seventh anniversary of the abolition of the royalty of the Bourbons and proclamation of the Republic, the *Avénir National* kept the day as a great republican holiday and did not appear.

During the late equinoctial gales—which, by the by, did a vast deal of damage all over the country and on the coast—one of the caprices of Nature was to blow away some of the letters over the offices of the *Journal Officiel*, so that those remaining formed the words *Journal fiel*, or the "venomous journal."

AVANT-COURIER.

The *Journal de Paris* publishes the following list of the papers seized in Paris from the 1st of September:—"Sept. 2.—*Journal Allemand de Francfort*. Sept. 8.—*Journal de Francfort*. Sept. 5.—*Journal de Francfort*, *Wanderer*, and *Italie*. Sept. 7.—*Indépendance Belge*, *Nord*, *Italie*, and *Morning Advertiser*. Sept. 8.—*Indépendance Belge*, *Nord*, *Journal de Francfort*, and *Boston Post*. Sept. 9.—*Opinione*, *Journal de Francfort*, and *Will o' the Wisp*. Sept. 10.—*Opinione* and *Journal de Francfort*. Sept. 11.—*Gazette de la Croix*, *Journal de Francfort*, *Examiner*, *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper*, and *Weekly Review*. Sept. 12.—*Journal de Francfort*, *Wanderer*, *Pall Mall Gazette*, *Nation*, *Spectator*, *Westminster Gazette*, and *Gazette Russe de Saint Pétersbourg*. Sept. 13.—*Wanderer*, *Journal de Francfort*, *Italie*, and *New York Weekly Tribune*. Sept. 16.—*Journal de Francfort*. Sept. 17.—*Journal de Francfort* and *Gazette de Francfort*." In addition (says the *Journal de Paris*) the *Cologne Gazette* has only been twice delivered to its French subscribers since the 2nd of February last; the *Etoile Belge* is systematically excluded, and the *Hamburg Borsenhalle* is only delivered to a few privileged merchants who require it for business purposes.

The death is announced of Charles Maurice, the *doyen* of the Parisian Press. He was thirty years editor of the *Courrier des Théâtres*. Some years ago he published his recollections, with the title, "*Histoire anecdotique du Théâtre et de la Littérature*." M. Maurice was in his eighty-eighth year.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, September 26.

The Prussian Parliament is convened to meet in the early part of next month, and among the Ministerial bills proposed to be

brought in is said to be one relating to the Press, but the nature and contents of it have not yet transpired. On the other hand, several of the Liberal members have had meetings and consultations during the recess, and intend to combine together to obtain some radical reforms of the present Press law, and place the periodical Press on a more satisfactory footing than it can boast of at present. As there is still a feeling of irritation rankling in the minds of the Prussians against Austria, notwithstanding the decisive campaign of 1866, it may be difficult to induce them to take a leaf out of Austria's book, and follow their example of introducing trial by jury for offences of the Press, which the Liberal journals admit to be attended with the most signal success, though the machinery used is far too cumbersome, and might be simplified with great benefit to all parties concerned.

In a former letter I mentioned a *cause célèbre* that gave rise to much scandal, and for a long time formed the fruitful theme of conversation in this city. It was a case of libel preferred by a clergyman in the suburb of St. Pauli, against Herr Richter, proprietor and editor of a local journal called the *Reform*, for an article imputing improper and immoral conduct of the reverend plaintiff in connexion with one of his own female servants, which was satisfactorily proved to be an unfounded charge and a libel, and for which the Court sentenced the defendant to 6,000 marks banco damages, and 800 marks to the libelled maid servant. Richter thought proper to appeal against this judgment to the Upper Tribunal; but he would have done better to let well alone and taken no further steps in the matter, as the last-named Court has just pronounced sentence on the appeal, confirming the decision of the Inferior Tribunal, but considering it to have been too lenient, they have raised the amount of damages from 6,000 up to 12,000 marks banco for the clergyman, and the compensation for the injured maid servant from 800 up to 600 marks banco; whilst the defendant has also to bear the costs in both instances. The same clergyman has also prosecuted one W. Scharfius, publisher of another local journal here, called the *Montags-Nachrichten*, for reproducing the incriminating article of the *Reform*, accompanied by some severe editorial remarks, for which the Court awarded the reverend plaintiff damages to the tune of 5,000 marks banco.

On the 1st inst. a meeting of the Mecklenburg Printers' Association was held at Schwerin and attended by above a hundred members from eight of the principal towns in that Grand Duchy. The statutes were read, discussed, and finally passed without much opposition, and without a division. The object of the institution is described as the preservation and improvement of the material interests and the moral elevation of its members; union of assistants and apprentices, with an eventual connection with the masters to settle and keep up the price of wages; preservation from unauthorised competition; abolition of all regular work on Sundays; to watch over and improve the position of apprentices; the creation and support of libraries and reading clubs; the introduction of educational classes; and the promotion and facilitation of scientific and technical lectures. Politics are strictly prohibited from being introduced and discussed. The seat of the association is Schwerin.

The *Altona Mercury*, a paper in existence for more than a century, and which during all that time had been in possession of the family of the original founder till last year, when it was sold, and came into the hands of the above-mentioned Herr Richter of the *Reform*, has again changed its editor; Dr. Edgar Bauer having retired, is succeeded by Herr Moritz Reichenbach, a gentleman who has to make a name for himself, as he is hitherto unknown in the German literary world.

On the 15th inst. the name of the *Vossische Zeitung* was in everybody's mouth at Berlin, for it underwent the very unusual occurrence of being confiscated by the police. As the usual number of copies had been sent off to the provinces and other countries, I could not be prevented from reading it here; and after looking closely into it found in the leading article the following unguarded words, which I presume gave cause for the confiscation: "What is suffered to occur here now is altogether unworthy of the Prussian name and calculated to call forth the blush of shame and create in us a feeling of the deepest disgust." These expressions have reference to the conduct of the Minister for Education, who is not a popular man at Berlin, and his inter-

diction of the Protestant Congress being held in the Prussian metropolis.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, September 26.

On the 1st of October, one of the principal newspapers of this city—the *Debatte*, originally founded as the special organ of Count Apponyi, at that time leader of the Hungarian orthodox Conservative party—will be discontinued, and the vacancy filled up by a new paper devoted to the support of Count Brest and his Cabinet, and called the *Reichspresse*, for the foundation of which preparations are being made on a scale of great magnitude, and part of the needful funds raised from the alterations made in the proprietorship of the old *Presse*. This last-named journal, which since the retirement of Dr. Zang has undergone a series of changes, and created much interest even in circles quite unconnected with the Press, from the great influence it exercises on public opinion in this country, has just entered a new stage of metamorphosis, and since the 15th inst. prints the name of Dr. Dreger as its responsible editor. The association of capitalists to whom it was transferred at the beginning of last year, and duly reported by me at the time, has just been dissolved, and the proprietorship of the *Presse* made over by a deed of sale, in which due compensation is given to the Government for the loss of its influence over the management, to a new association consisting of eight members, among whom figure the names of Dr. Weiss, an advocate of this city, Dr. Dreger, the new ostensible editor, and Herr Mahlmann, the banker, as well as the wealthy manufacturers, Herr Liebig and Messrs. Klein Brothers. This of itself would be no great alteration, only a change of proprietorship from one association to another, and the Government may be as well able to offer a tempting bait to the new one as they did to the old one. But the guarantee for the perfect and unconditional independence of the *Presse* in this new phase of its existence is connected with other circumstances. In the first place it is expressed plainly in a document signed on the part of the Government by one of the ministers, whilst the former consortium was more or less considered in the light of a substitute of the Government when they took over from Dr. Zang the management of the paper. And indeed Dr. Dreger has greatly altered his position, for he is no longer simply a paid servant of the company, as he was when in the beginning of last year he gave up the editorship of the *Trieste Zeitung* to undertake the management of the *Presse*, but a partner in the new concern and co-equal with the rest, whilst his appointment as chief editor gives him supreme power over the political tendency of the paper, with which no one dare interfere to control him. It is, therefore, quite out of the question that the Government can exercise any pressure on the politics of the paper, as they did in October last year, when they granted favours to several of the then proprietors, though it must be understood that the influence of the Cabinet over the *Presse* was never more than an indirect one—even in the nine months which have elapsed since the time when Dr. Dreger was constrained to withdraw last year from the political management, because he thought proper to assert publicly his independence of government influence, that produced a crisis in which the consortium left him in the lurch, and disavowed his conduct. But as I said above, such incidents cannot now happen again. I may here add that the completion of the transaction was much facilitated by the circumstance that the former proprietors were afraid of losing their money if they permitted any intermeddling in their affairs by the writers of the Press bureau, and on the other hand the Government well understood that a journal of such an amphibious character could render them no real or serviceable support. It may, therefore, be described as a transaction favourable to the interests of all parties—to the late proprietors as preserving them from pecuniary loss; to the Government as affording them the facile means of establishing an organ of their own; and to the new association and their editors as restoring to their paper their perfect independence and liberation from the trammels of official connection with the ministers which were popularly supposed to exist.

A difference of opinion exists as to the editorial management of the official *Wiener Zeitung*. It is at present entirely under the influence of Count Beust, but Dr. Giskra, the Minister of the Interior, after his return from Marienbad, in a note to the Chan-

cellor, wishes it to be placed under the orders of the Home Department, as it was formerly, under the administration of Schmerling and Belcredi.

The last act of the congress of journalists, some account of whose proceedings I wrote to you last month, was to elect the committee for the fifth congress, which will be probably held at Dresden next year. The *Neue Freie Presse* was proclaimed president, the *Medicinische Wochenschrift* vice-president, the old *Presse* protocolist, and the *Wanderer* treasurer. The other members of the committee are the *Tagesbote für Böhmen* of Prague, the *Tagespost* of Gratz, the *Schlesische Zeitung* of Breslau, and the *Flensburger Zeitung* of Flensburg.

A second general meeting of the Austrian printers has been held here since my last letter, and attended by 39 delegates from the principal towns of the empire; but they could not declare the "Printers' Association" as constituted, as in many respects their statutes or bye-laws are at variance with the laws of the empire now in force. A committee was therefore appointed to make the needful alterations to be laid before the next meeting. Several reforms in reference to existing regulations for apprentices to the trade were agreed to.

The death of the Aulic Councillor Auer, Ritter von Welsbach, is much regretted in literary circles. At the early age of twelve the deceased entered as apprentice his father's printing-office at Welsbach, in Upper Austria, and after learning the trade became an assiduous student of foreign languages, in which he became a celebrated proficient. Among his published works is a polyglot collection of the Lord's Prayer in six hundred and eight various languages and dialects.

A domiciliary visit has been paid by the police to the editor's office of the *Pokrok* at Prague, which was subsequently extended to the printing office and the private residence of the editor. The object was a search for the "copy" of two leading articles of a revolutionary character, but it was not discovered. Since then the journal was prosecuted on the charge of *lèse majesté* and disturbance of the public peace. It was the first case of the newly-introduced principle of trial by jury, and as the jurors unanimously answered all the questions in the negative, the editor, Augustus Palak, was acquitted, which caused great joy and triumph in the Czechish camp and confidence in the new institution. The *Naristy Listy*, the *Pokrok*, and the *Politik*, all published at Prague, have been placed under sequestration by the Government for arrears of the advertisement duty which they refused to pay.

On the 1st of September the first Press trial under the new system came on at Cilli, when Herr Wiethaler, editor of the *Marburger Zeitung*, was acquitted by the jury.

The *Freiheit* of Gratz has been confiscated for a severe attack on the Roman Inquisition.

A committee has been formed in this city for the publication of a numismatic journal. Dr. Kenner, custos of the Imperial Cabinet of Coins and Medals, the Aulic Councillor Huber, and Dr. Karabacek are among the most active promoters, and have promised copious contributions.

TEUTON.

Count Bethlen's *Diplomatische Wochenschrift* makes the following declaration: "The heroes of the Vienna Press-office have received orders to attack the editor of this paper, and among other things they assert that he openly associates in Berlin with the Prussian Government. The editor of the *Wochenschrift* was never in Berlin, and he has been unable to leave Pesth for a year, as he was severely wounded in the battle of Jicin (1866), and he is daily in danger of death. However, he is rightly served, and his case may show every Hungarian what gratitude Austria feels for those who fight her battles."

RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, September 25.

For some time past reports have been in circulation here of intended alterations in the Press law, involving still further restrictions. On this subject the *Moscow Gazette* says: "The Press, i.e., the public expression of language, has lately been liberated from the trammels of preventive censorship, but for all that it cannot be said that the situation of our Press is a perfectly secure one. It is now rumoured that the law, by virtue of which the Press is free, was intended only as a provisional measure, and we are threatened with fresh alterations which will again place the

Press, partly *de jure* and partly *de facto*, under the control of Government censorship." With regard to the question whether the introduction of such a control is of any utility, the same organ remarks that "the subject has long since been decided by public opinion and the progress of civilisation in all countries, and in Russia sufficiently confirmed by our own experiences. Censorship does not avert the evil, but only masks it to render it more venomous; and there can be no doubt that its effect is to crush out the life it should cherish and foster, and destroy those interests committed to its care for preservation from injury and losses." Some confirmation has been given to the above-mentioned rumour by the fact of the central administration of the affairs of the Press republishing a semi-official declaration that originally appeared in 1866 in the Government organ, the *Northern Post*, in which a warning is given to be careful in reproducing from class papers and scientific periodicals "articles whose contents are not always in perfect accordance with the existing conditions allowed by the present Press law," when copied into newspapers and other popular publications, as such reproductions, in certain cases, might give rise to prosecutions attended with unpleasant consequences in case of conviction.

The *Deutsche St. Petersburger Zeitung*, the only paper in this city that has fearlessly opposed the intended Russification and suppression of the German element in the Baltic provinces, has received a second warning, and as its very existence is now seriously threatened, has been frightened into the publication of the following announcement in editorial type at the head of its first column: "The voluminous original correspondence from the Baltic Provinces that we have lately published, has given great offence in certain high quarters, and been accompanied by such threats of severe measures towards us, that we are unavoidably compelled to discontinue them for the present."

The *Russian Invalide*, which has been discontinued ever since the beginning of this year, is announced to reappear as a daily paper in the Russian language on the 1st of January next.

COSSACK.

The following remarkable official declaration has recently appeared:—"Some journals published in the capital of the empire remark, with much reason, that the Polish Press of Warsaw affects to ignore all that relates to Russia. The Press is even unwilling to know of what passes under its very eyes. Thus, for instance, no Polish journal in Warsaw has mentioned, even in a few words, the important event which occurred yesterday—namely, the consecration of the new orthodox Russian Church in the suburb of Prague. The director of the censorship hopes that the editors of the newspapers and other periodicals of Warsaw will understand the impropriety of passing over in silence events which happen in the empire of which this country is but a small part."

DENMARK.

At Copenhagen an enterprise of a novel character is the appearance of a railway and steamboat journal, containing merely light and amusing reading, which is given away to all passengers arriving at and leaving the city by steamer and railway, as well as distributed at all the hotels and coffee-houses *gratis*, the enterprising publisher endeavouring to cover his expenses and make a profit out of the advertisements. Such speculations have been tried at Berlin, Vienna, and Hamburg, but were never found to answer, and were soon discontinued. We may therefore expect a similar finale to the Copenhagen undertaking.

BAVARIA.

Dr. J. Sigl, the editor of the notorious *Bayerische Vaterland*, has been convicted by the District Court at Munich of a libel on the Jewish teacher Kleemann, of Forchheim, and condemned to a fortnight's imprisonment. Other prosecutions are awaiting him when he obtains his freedom.

BADEN.

The ultramontane *Trompeter von Seckingen* is accustomed to ridicule the Government by calling the corps of gendarmes—"Schandarmen." As a proof that this was not an overlooked typographical error the word occurs no less than three times in 19 lines in a paragraph containing other philippics against the authori-

ties in the impression of July 20 last. The Grand-Ducal Procurator Fiscal at Waldshut conceiving this to be a premeditated impertinence, commenced an action against the editor on the charge of *Ehrenkränkung*, or injury to honour, which last week was tried before the local court. When the trial came on, the counsel for the defendant endeavoured to show that there was nothing improper in the way of spelling the word, but rather that it contained a flattering acknowledgment of the services and character of the gallant corps, as the etymology of the appellation was *Shand-armen*, implying blameless conduct. This view of the case was taken also by the Court, and the defendant was acquitted. But the Procurator was not content with the verdict, and intimated his intention of appealing to the Superior Tribunal.

We have received Nos. 5 and 6 (19th August and 2nd September) of a new journal published at Heidelberg, under the title of *La Fraternité*, "Organ International de la Démocratie." It is edited by E. La Rigandière, is printed in the French language, and contains a feuilleton.

SPAIN.

It is proposed to establish in Madrid an association of "Editors and Writers." The *Tipografía* commends the project, but expresses a doubt as to its realisation, for similar propositions have on various occasions been made without success.

PORTUGAL.

The *Vox Feminina* has been discontinued; but a new paper, identical in appearance and in views, has been commenced, under the title of *O Progresso*, a weekly journal of news, politics, and literature.

ITALY.

Press prosecutions are starting up every day in wonderful profusion and ubiquity, and appear to be quite the order of the day, though not much to the credit of the Manabrea-Digny Cabinet, nor advantage to the Ministerial journals, though to the considerable increase of the sale and circulation of the Liberal and Opposition Press. Professor Marco Sabbadini, editor of the Milanese *Belfiore*, has been fined 250 lire and condemned to three months' imprisonment for publishing a misrepresentation of the events of the June disturbances. At Florence two Opposition journals have been fined 600 and 1,000 lire respectively, and their editors committed to prison for several months. At Lodi the editor of *La Plebe* has been arrested, and is to stand his trial, but was subsequently liberated on furnishing bail for 2,000 lire. The *Giornale di Milano* has been put under sequestration for having called Lobbio's citation for alleged creation of a fictitious crime a fresh *attentato* against Lobbio. The *Favilla* of Mantua has been fined 1,500 lire, which sum was soon made up by public subscription. Immediately afterwards the director of that journal and twenty-three other citizens were prosecuted for signing an address to Signor Bertrani, and the editor has engaged the services of the member of Parliament, A. Billia, for his defence. At Genoa in two days three Press trials were heard—the *Genova*, the *Dovere*, and the *Giovine Italia* (since discontinued), the editors being of course condemned to fines and imprisonment, the fine of the *Dovere* being 2,000 lire. The Government appears to attach great importance to the infliction of fines as an efficacious means of suppressing and ruining the licentious Press. In the *Nazione* of the 2nd inst., Signor Brenna, the editor, announces his retirement from that post from motives of delicacy, as the unfounded attacks that are continually made on him might in the long run induce him to overstep the bounds of discretion; but, on the other hand, he adds, in his place in Parliament he will be found ready to defend his conduct from the imputations cast on him in his connection with the *Enquête* on the tobacco affair.

A new typographical periodical is announced at Florence under the title of *L'Arte della Stampa*, edited by Salvator Landi, and published by Giovanni Murate, of that city.

UNITED STATES.

New York, September 16.

The *New York Citizen* in absorbing the *Round Table* has taken care to secure the hands that obtained for that journal the character of a scholarly and gentlemanly paper, and a reformer of the

tone and style of newspaper writing in this country. True, much of the literary element which graced the original series of the *Round Table* has not passed into the columns of the *Citizen*, but such of your readers who were familiar with the elevated tone of the leaders of the former paper, will recognise the old spirit in the following remarks taken from a recent *Citizen* leader, which cannot be too highly commended. When the wishes of the writer are fulfilled (and I agree with him that they are in inevitable process of fulfilment), but not before, may your Mr. Bright be justified in instituting a comparison between the English and American Press, at all favourable to the latter. May these outspoken and honest words not be thrown away upon our journalists; and even some of the writers of the *Citizen* itself might lay them to heart with advantage, for the very copy which contains them is not altogether free from the blemishes which they so justly condemn: "We believe and venture to affirm that the American journalism of the future will be of a far different type, and that the time will come when lying, malignant personality, slang, exaggeration, and the childish monstrosities that many still think so attractive will be thoroughly exploded and heartily despised by the masses of the people; that the time will come when truthfulness, scholarship, good breeding, purity of diction, and consistent self-respect will be regarded as prime essentials for rank and success in the trade of journalism; and that with these improvements will come an almost complete eschewal of the meretricious inanities which for some time past have so degraded the American Press, and have tended to reflect, for obvious reasons, discredit upon republican institutions."

Mr. Louis J. Jennings, formerly New York correspondent of the *London Times* has lately returned from Europe and joined the staff of the *New York Times*.

The *Boston Daily Advertiser* has been recently sold to a new company for something under 250,000 dols.

The *New York World* proposes a reward of 500,000 dols. for a type setting machine, and puts itself down for 25,000 dols. by way of a commencement.

Samuel L. Clements, popularly known as "Mark Twain," has become editor of the *Buffalo Express*, and in his introductory address that humorous writer says: "I am simply going to do my plain, unpretending duty, when I cannot get out of it. I shall work diligently and honestly and faithfully at all times and upon all occasions, when privation and want shall compel me to do it. I shall not make use of slang or vulgarity upon any occasion or under any circumstances, and shall never use profanity except in discussing house rent and taxes. Indeed upon second thought, I will not even use it then, for it is unchristian, inelegant, and degrading—though, to speak truly, I do not see how house rent and taxes are going to be discussed worth a cent without it."

Negotiations are said to be pending for the transfer of one of the Brooklyn dailies to Mr. Butler, nephew of General Butler, late of Wilkes' *Spirit*, Mr. E. D. Webster, and Mr. J. R. Young.

Robert Bonner has written a letter, declaring that a million dollars would not have induced him to print Mrs. Stowe's Byron article in the *New York Ledger*.

During a recent freshet in Connecticut a reporter telegraphed to another at the scene of action, "Send me full particulars of the flood." The answer came, "You will find them in Genesis."

A new penny morning paper is coming out at Washington to be called the *Morning News*. It will be edited by Mr. M. Hart, lately of the *Chronicle*.

Mr. Park Goodwin, of the *New York Evening Post*, has just returned from Paris, whither he went more than a year ago in quest of materials for his "History of France."

The successor of Mr. John Russell Young as managing editor of the *New York Tribune* is Mr. Whitelaw Reid, an Ohio journalist for some years connected with the *Cincinnati Gazette*, and author of "Ohio in the War." John Hay, President Lincoln's private secretary, has become editor of the *Springfield Journal*, Illinois.

The circulation of the *New York Ledger* is said to exceed 300,000. In Chicago alone one dealer sells 22,000 copies and another 2,000.

Donald G. Mitchell receives 5,000 dols. a year for editing *Hearth and Home*.

A daily illustrated paper has been started in San Francisco. The daily numbers will be collected and published as a weekly.

The daily contains eight pages. The illustrations are executed in the new process of zincography, having very much the appearance of lithography.

Among the new speculations of the month are the *Weekly Dispatch* at Reading; *Public Opinion*, at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania (M. A. Foitz, editor); the *Silver Cornet* (monthly musical organ), at the same place; *Observer*, Barry, Illinois; *Anthracite Monitor*, at Tamaqua, Philadelphia (John Parker, editor); and the *New Idea*, at Philadelphia, a monthly gratis advertising sheet—not remarkable for novelty, you will say.

SOL.

Numbers of ladies are becoming newspaper reporters in New York.

During the past thirty-five years no less than fifty-five daily papers have been started in the city of New York, lived for a short time, and then died for want of adequate support, after having sunk millions of dollars; and many of them tried the experiment at a time when it did not cost a tithe of the sum to carry on a daily paper which it costs at the present time.—*Printers' Circular*.

AN AMERICAN ADVERTISER.—Mr. Hembold's magnificent four-in-hand double team of dark-brown horses is one of the sights of Long Branch, and this no newspaper man envies him, for the great druggist has obtained a fortune, as the most courageous—some people, who do not understand it, might say reckless—advertiser in the world. He commenced with 2,000 dols. 18 years ago, and now he spends 10,000 dols. a week in advertising alone; always working on the plan of the more he gets the more he advertises. He has 2,700 papers on his list, and he has paid to several of the leading journals from 1,500 dols. to 3,000 for a single insertion of his great advertisement. To the *New York Herald* he once offered 5,000 dols. for a page, but it was of the issue which announced the fall of Richmond, and interesting matter then so pressed on Mr. Bennett that he was obliged to decline the offer.

THE NEW YORK PRESS.—The *New York Star* has these personals on the New York Press: Mr. Bennett is the tallest editor, Mr. Dana the fattest, Mr. Greeley the slouchiest, Mr. Erastus Brooks the solemnist, Mr. Tilton the Shanks marest, Mr. De Nyse the shortest, Mr. Van Buren the reddest, Mr. Roosevelt the politest, Mr. Oakey Hall the wittiest, Mr. Winter the touchiest, Mrs. Stanton the prettiest, Miss Anthony the prettiest, Mrs. Sheppard the prettiest, Elenora Kirk the prettiest, Nellie Hutchinson the prettiest.—*Standard*.

We hear from the *New York Figaro* that Miss Elise Holt, late of the Strand Theatre, finding the criticism in the *San Francisco News Letter* unsatisfactory, armed herself with a cow-hide and called four times at the office for the purpose of administering a thrashing to Mr. Marriott, the editor. Hitherto Mr. Marriott has avoided an encounter.

The *Boston Daily Tribune*, the long promised prohibition organ, made its appearance Monday, Aug. 30. It is a two cent morning paper, twice as large, and not half as good, we are told, as the *Evening Times*, the penny paper, which also started on the same day. Edwin M. Bacon, formerly of the *Boston Advertiser*, has become assistant editor of the *New York Times*, under Mr. Bigelow.—*Anglo-American Times*.

The *American Booksellers' Guide* says there are 3,500 newspapers published in the United States, of which five-sevenths are issued in the Northern States.

A new fortnightly paper—which will probably be weekly when it grows stronger—entitled the *American Sovereign*, is to be issued in this city on the first of October. It will be devoted to the emancipation of mankind from corporate bodies. We do not mean to imply that it is to be an organ of spiritualism, but merely an enemy of "soulless corporations."—*New York Citizen*.

The editor of the *Louisville Courier-Journal* has been examining a copy of the *Daily Citizen*, dated at Vicksburg, July 2, 1863, just two days previous to the surrender of that city to General Grant. It is printed on the blank side of a piece of yellow wall-paper about 20 inches long by 11 inches wide, and has the name of J. M. Swords at the head of its first column as proprietor. It has four columns of matter, in breviter type. A column and a third is devoted to telegrams from Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Baltimore, and New York, dated June 21, and headed in a black full-faced letter, "Yankee News from All Points." The balance of the paper is devoted to editorial articles and paragraphs.—*Anglo-American Times*.

A new paper in Boise City, Idaho, introduces itself to the public in the following terms:—"Salutatory: We have started a paper. Name: *Capital Chronicle*. Principles: Democratic to the hilt. Object: To make a living. Office: On Main Street, about three hundred yards below the Overland Hotel, opposite an old oyster can in the road. And we'll run it or 'bust.'"

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

After a brief existence of rather less than four months, the *Adelaide Punch* has ceased to be. A notice from the publisher intimates that the income from the paper has not proved at all sufficient to pay expenses, and *Punch* writes his own mournful epitaph as follows:—"In Memoriam. *Adelaide Punch*, born 5th December, 1868; died April Fool's Day, 1869. Strangers, be kind to Toby—

Life's a jest—all things show it;
I thought so once, and now I know it.

The *Illustrated Adelaide Post* contains an engraving of the new offices of the *Advertiser*, *Chronicle*, and *Express*, which form a massive and handsome block of buildings. The *Illustrated Post* says:—

"It is extremely gratifying that the demand amongst the South Australian community for newspaper literature should be so great that so large and complete a building should be found necessary to meet the public requirements. Whether in ornament, or design, or magnitude, or finishing, this handsome newspaper establishment will bear favour-comparison with the edifices that are erected on behalf of banking or commercial interests, and as an exponent of the popular support given to the Press is a matter that the colonists may well be proud of."

It appears that the several newspapers published in this building were not commenced simultaneously—the *Advertiser* (daily) and the *Chronicle* (weekly) were started in 1858, by the Hon. Mr. Barrow, and the *Express*, an evening paper, within the last six years. The *Daily Telegraph* and the *Weekly Mail* were bought up and incorporated with the *Chronicle* and the *Express*. These papers have had a very marked influence on public questions, particularly the agricultural interests of the colony, and have been conducted with more than ordinary ability. Simultaneously with the announcement of the completion of their new offices, the proprietors publish a notice to the effect that the price of the *Advertiser* will in future be 2d. per copy, instead of 3d., as formerly, remarking that—

"Even where the population is limited, and such colossal penny prints as the London *Daily Telegraph*, or some of the American broad-sheets are unattainable, it is still found possible gradually to increase the size of newspapers, to incur greater outlay in their preparation, and to lower their price to the public at the same time."

NEW ZEALAND.

There are eighty registered newspapers published in New Zealand.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. THOMAS WATTS.

It is with feelings of sincere regret that we record the death of Mr. Thomas Watts, the keeper of the printed books in the British Museum. Two or three weeks ago, in getting out of an omnibus, he unfortunately bruised his leg. A fever supervened, which not all the skill and care of the Physician to the Museum, Dr. Cantor, could prevent terminating fatally. Mr. Watts' name will long be remembered in connection with newspaper history by his discovery and exposure in 1839 of the impudent forgery of the long-considered earliest printed newspaper, the now notorious *English "Mercurie"* of 1588. In a masterly analysis he proved to the full satisfaction of even the most unwilling that the alleged newspaper was a base forgery. That was not his only substantive publication. He delighted principally in writing biographies for the "English Cyclopædia," in which he is said to have been the author of the lives of more than one hundred literary men. He was also an occasional contributor to the *Quarterly Review*, and frequently enriched the pages of the *Athenæum* with his linguistic lore, which was such as to have gained for him an European reputation. An "Essay on the Hungarian Language," which he contributed amongst various other papers to the "Transactions of the Philo-

logical Society," obtained for him the honour of being elected, in conjunction with the late Lord Macaulay, a member of the Hungarian Academy. What his age was is not precisely known, but he is supposed to have been born somewhere at the commencement of the present century. He was a native of London. From 1838 till the summer of 1856, when, on the retirement of Mr., now Sir Antonio Panizzi, from the principal librarianship, and the appointment to that office of Mr. Winter Jones, he was promoted to the keepership of the printed books, he was never idle with his pen. The frequenters of the Museum and students owe to suggestions made by him nearly a quarter of a century back the existence of the present magnificent reading-room. The attendants must also bear his memory in grateful remembrance for the trouble they are spared in supplying the wants of the readers on account of the admirable manner in which the books have been classified and arranged on the shelves under his directions. Such a difficult task could not have been so successfully accomplished had it not been a labour of love with him, seeing that when he was first appointed to a post in the Museum, in 1838, there were but a quarter of a million of books, which have now increased to the enormous number of close upon 800,000. His urbanity and courtesy and the pains he was always ready to take to assist the researches of readers will not be soon forgotten, and the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* itself is indebted to him for an interesting contribution in No. 8, for July, 1867, on the space occupied by our national collection of newspapers, which he had carefully measured by reliable hands for the special information of our readers. In one of his letters to us a short time ago, he intimated that the work of his department was harassing, and we fear that a fatal termination to so slight an injury might not have ensued had not his general health suffered lately from a too close attention to his arduous duties. We are certain that all who knew him will endorse our fears that the authors and public writers who resort to the British Museum reading-room will long feel the loss of his ever ready aid and kindly sympathies.

MR. T. E. RICHARDSON.

The Melbourne papers record the death of Mr. Thomas E. Richardson, who was for many years proprietor and editor of the *Portland Guardian*, who expired in the early part of May at Raangal, near Skipton, in the western district of the colony of Victoria. The late Mr. Richardson was born in London, where he received the rudiments of his education. He afterwards proceeded to Glasgow University, where he graduated for the ministry, and took high honours as a scholar. About 1840 he was employed as a tutor in the family of the late Sir John Franklin, then Governor of Tasmania, in which colony he married, and afterwards returned to Scotland. After spending two or three years in Glasgow, he went back as a missionary to the Australian colonies, and settled at Portland, as a minister of the Presbyterian church, in 1848. Through his exertions, the Presbyterian church at Portland was built, at a cost of £800. After some years of missionary life, Mr. Richardson purchased the *Portland Guardian*, and began his career as a journalist in July, 1852. In journalism he showed the same energy which characterised him as a minister, and for a long series of years his name was identified with every movement of a social and political character in the town of Portland, his best efforts being directed towards making it the "metropolis of the West."

MR. HORACE BARKER.

The death is announced, on the 19th of August, after a protracted illness, of Mr. Horace Barker, printer and publisher of the *Bury and Norwich Post and Suffolk Herald*. That journal, in announcing Mr. Barker's death, says:—"At the head of a thriving and first-class printing business, for twenty years the sole publisher of this journal, and for six years the principal secretary to the Suffolk Alliance Insurance Office (his connection with which extended over a space of forty years). Mr. Barker was very widely known in this and the adjoining counties. . . . For many years Mr. Barker acted as reporter for this journal, and the accuracy and fulness of his verbatim reports were universally acknowledged. . . . In public matters Mr. Barker always shrank from a prominent place, and it is not long since he declined a seat in the Town Council, preferring to retain his post as auditor.

As an income-tax commissioner and trustee of the Guildhall Foffment, he also displayed a constant interest in matters which concerned the welfare of the town, and he has always been one of the principal and most unfailing supporters of the Mechanics' Institute." The work of restoration of St. James's parish church, of which Mr. Barker was a member, was much forwarded by his labours as honorary secretary to the committee, and his donations to the fund. In politics he was a Liberal. The illness to which Mr. Barker succumbed was of nine months' duration. He was married to the daughter of Thomas B. Ross, Esq., of Ipswich, who survives him, with seven young children.

The *Suffolk Chronicle* adds, "Mr. Barker was one of the most genial and generous of men, and all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance will long remember the hearty and welcome greeting they met with. The deceased gentleman took much interest in the town of Bury St. Edmund's; in various ways he made that interest practical and efficient; and his kindly disposition towards the poor will not soon be forgotten by the recipients of his bounty. Gradually has death been clearing away those who might be called the seniors of the Press in Suffolk."

Home Subjects.

THE BYRON CONTROVERSY.—The Hon. Mrs. Norton was, it is stated, the author of the first article in the *Times* on the Byron case, endorsing Mrs. Beecher Stowe's opinion.

Mr. DRYMOND, who has been connected with the *Morning Star* from its commencement, is about to retire from that paper, with the intention of settling in Canada.

When can a newspaper be said to be in its sharpest state? When it has been filed for years.

"THE ACADEMY," the new literary journal announced in our last, will appear on the 9th inst., and be continued on the second Saturday of each month. One of its novel features will be that each of its reviews will be signed by the writer.

The special correspondents who are to chronicle the opening of the Suez Canal are beginning to think about preparing themselves for their trip. Dr. Russell is to represent the *Times*, Mr. Edward Dicey the *Daily Telegraph*, and Mr. Henley the *Standard*.

A PHILADELPHIA reporter apologises for the coarseness of his language, caused, as he says, by the gold pen with which he was writing having been lately used to open oysters.

A TYPOGRAPHICAL MISTAKE of a "c" for an "h" in the columns of a contemporary made "A locomotive run over a cow and cut it into calves."

Mr. TOM HOOD is engaged on a new novel, the right of publishing which has been secured by the proprietors of the *South London Press*. It is called "Money's worth."

THE HOME AND FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC NEWS COMPANY (Limited) have issued their prospectus. The capital is £20,000, in 4,000 shares of £5 each, with power, if necessary, to increase the amount. The object is the collection and supply of news to the various London and provincial news rooms, chambers of commerce, and the Press.

GENERAL PERRONET THOMPSON, better known by his achievements of the pen than the sword, died on the 8th ult, at his residence at Blackheath, aged 87. He was formerly a frequent contributor to the *Weekly Dispatch* and other journals of extreme views, and had lately written a series of articles on the growing power of the Church of Rome, in the *Morning Advertiser*.

THE Silk Supply Association has determined to start a *Silk Supply Record*, on the model of the *Cotton Supply Reporter* of the Manchester Cotton Supply Association, its purpose being to promote and report upon new fields for the cultivation of silk. It will appear monthly.

Messrs. TRÜBNER & Co., in conjunction with Mr. A. Frank, of Paris, announces the *Revue Celtique*, a new quarterly journal of Celtic literature, to be conducted by M. H. Gaidoz, in conjunction with the chief Celtic scholars of this and other countries. The subscription will be £1 a year.

THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS" AND ITS WRITERS.—In the course of a severe article on this paper, the Manchester *Sphinx* reminds us of the eminent hands which have from time to time been employed upon it:—"Dr. Charles Mackay, Laman Blanchard,

Angus Reach, Douglas Jerrold, Horace Mayhew, Henry Mayhew, Mark Lemon, R. B. Brough, G. A. Sala, J. Hain Friswell, Peter Cunningham, Roger Acton, John Latey, William Black, T. J. Gullick, the art critic, John Timbs, F.S.A., Shirley Brooks, and many others."

A NEW WEEKLY started on the 11th ult, under the title of the *Man about Town* (and elsewhere). "Edited by himself. A Chronicle of the Lightest, Brightest, Gayest, and Freshest Doings of the Day at Home and Abroad." Price twopence.

A VELOCIPED ORGAN.—The *Veloceman*, published by Mr. Hodge, of Rathbone-place, Oxford-street, has been started as the official organ of the Imperial Velocipede Committee. We have received the first two numbers, and find it well written and capitally printed.

A NEWSPAPER to be called the *Latest News* was announced to appear shortly, in the *Newspaper Press* of April, 1867. It was then intended to appear daily. Mr. Maddick brought out a weekly paper under that title on the 29th August. It contains sixteen pages, price one penny, but presents no novel features.

DEATH OF MR. T. L. BEHAN.—The Southampton papers announce the death at one of the hotels in that town of Mr. T. L. Behan, for many years editor of the *London Gazette*. Mr. Behan, who was formerly connected with the *Hampshire Independent*, obtained the post which he held at his death from Lord Palmerston. He went to Southampton, intending to spend the season in his yacht the *Rattlesnake*, but was seized with illness which terminated fatally. He was sixty-six years of age.

A NEW "NATIONAL AND DEMOCRATIC JOURNAL," with the motto, "Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity," and edited by T. F. Mac Carthie, for some years connected with the *Mayo Telegraph*, was started in Dublin on the 18th September, under the title of *The People of Ireland*. It is to be a weekly paper, price twopence, and, putting its principles aside, is better "got up" than many of the Irish journals of less extreme views. This will make the third weekly organ of the Fenian brotherhood in Dublin—the others being the *Irishman* and the *Flag of Ireland*. The *Nation* is simply democratic.

REGISTRATION OF NEWSPAPERS.—Mr. Ayrton has promised the Provincial Newspaper Society that he will, as soon as possible, transfer the existing register of newspapers from Somerset House to Stationers' Hall. The Telegraphs Act will, it is understood, come into operation on the 1st of January, 1870. "The Press Association, Limited," are actively engaged in making the necessary arrangements to continue, without interruption, the supply to all the provincial newspapers of telegraphic and other information.

THE NEWSPAPERS, &c., REPEAL ACT.—Although this Act relieves newspaper proprietors from the necessity of registering their papers at Somerset House, it does not, for the present, release the bonds deposited by those who are already registered under the old Act. It is understood that in cases of newspapers where, at the expiration of six months from July 12, 1869, the date when the "Newspapers Repeal Act, 1869," came into force, no notice of any action for libel shall have been given, the bonds will, on application at Somerset House, be cancelled.

THE "LONDON GAZETTE."—The demise of Mr. T. L. Behan, late editor, manager, and publisher of the *London Gazette*, has caused a vacancy of a rather lucrative office, but it is probable that the editorship will be abolished as a separate appointment, and the duties entrusted to a gentleman connected with the Foreign Office library. The duties of the editor are almost of a nominal character, and the office is indeed supposed to be a sinecure.

No sooner is any hobby or crotchety, however ridiculous, started, than up starts a "special organ" to advocate it. Some wiseacres have found out that Jenner's magnificent discovery was all humbug, and forthwith we are beset with a weekly penny journal, emanating from Manchester, and called the *Anti-Vaccinator*. Possibly there are still ignorance and prejudice enough to keep it going for a time.

A PAINFUL FEELING has been created in Edinburgh on the 23rd ult. by the announcement that a son of Mr. Russel, the editor of the *Scotsman*, while attempting to cross the Ettrick by some stepping stones, missed his footing, and was carried away by the swollen river and drowned.

FIGURES OF SPEECH.—In a Marylebone local paper there is a good specimen of the high-flown. It is a letter from a correspon-

dent who signs himself "Stiletto," and is addressed to Mr. Harvey Lewis, who is at present staying at Ostend. "It is quite useless," says the writer, "for you to make any attempt to shield yourself against the gathering storm by raising the umbrella of indifference or taking refuge in the gateway of defiance."

THE newspapers have greatly contributed to enrich the English language. We shall shortly have—thanks to the gentlemen of the Press—a pretty, delicate, idiomatic turn of speech for all the principal affairs of life. Thus, a widow is a "fair relict;" young woman making her *débüt* at a police office is "an interesting female." Formerly a criminal used to be hanged, but now he is "launched into eternity." A man was sometimes drowned in olden times, but that never occurs now; he may indeed be "immersed in the liquid element till the fire of life be extinguished." When a man fell down in a fit a surgeon used to be sent for, but now "medical aid" is said to be "in attendance;" should he die before the surgeon comes, "the vital spark had fled." In the times of our plain-spoken ancestors horses and cattle were sometimes killed by lightning, but they are now "struck by the electric fluid." Again, a ship used to be launched, but there is nothing of the kind now. "We are losing all our amusements," as Crookery has it; the ship now "glides majestically into her native element," in which native element, by the way, she never was before. In old-fashioned times bridegrooms and brides used to be married. We are really quite ashamed to say there is no such thing as marriage now; the bride is "led to the hymeneal altar." And the wedding guests, instead of dancing now, "trip it gaily on the light fantastic toe."

THE PERIODICAL WORLD.—Mr. Wilkie Collins is alert, after a long repose. He is now engaged on a story which is intended for successive numbers of "Cassell's Magazine." Mr. Grove, we are told, has just undertaken the editorship of "Macmillan's Magazine." It has been variously stated that Mrs. Beecher Stowe received from "Macmillan's Magazine" £250 and £500 for her "True Story of Lady Byron's Life."

AN AMERICAN VIEW OF LIBEL.—To record events certainly is not libel; to state facts cannot be; or else, in either case, journalism would be unlawful. Deductions from facts are not *per se* libellous, even if the deductions are a *non sequitur*, and the assumed facts are not facts. John Smith is caught by the police in the act of entering a area window; the editor records the fact, and adds that John Smith is a thief. But it subsequently appears that it was not John Smith but Thomas Jones, and that he was entering his own window, having been locked out; has the editor, who never saw or heard of these persons, libelled either? Killing a man is not murder unless the act is deliberate and malicious, and, in like manner, the libel exists only in the intent. It cannot easily be that any man's reputation receives actual damage from a newspaper; for if he and his acts are prominent enough to receive special mention, they are prominent enough to have been already judged by the public.—*Round Table*.

JOURNALISM AND JOURNALISTS.—While everybody acknowledges the influence of journals, nobody seems to care at all about, or think at all about, the labours or the merits of journalists. So far as fame or reputation goes, they labour gratis. A journal may be a great thing, but an editor is a very small one. Everybody sees the one—nobody knows anything at all about the other. And yet the editor is the soul of the journal; without him it is but a dead carcass. He confers upon it name, influence, reputation; but neither name, influence, nor reputation does it—except in very rare cases—yield back to him. There is no profession which exercises the tithe of the control over the public mind as those that are wielded by the journalist, and yet there is no profession, the individual members of which are so little known, so little appreciated, so little honoured. Take all the editors in Great Britain, they do more towards influencing the destinies of Great Britain than the members of every learned profession put together. We go further: we say, take as many men from both Houses of Legislature as there are political writers for the periodical Press of this country, and you will find that, so far as personal political influence goes—we do not talk of actually wielded political powers, but of political influence over the public mind produced by power of reasoning or of declamation—so far as this goes, we believe

the powers of the members of the Press far outweigh the powers of the members of the Senate.—*Douglas Jerrold*.

THE PROVINCIAL PRESS OF ENGLAND.—The provincial Press of England has improved more rapidly than the metropolitan Press. Indeed the metropolitan Press has not improved at all, except in the establishment of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, whereas many provincial papers have much improved, availing themselves to a great extent of the telegraph; hence they stand the comparison better.—*Anglo-American Times*.

AN EDITOR'S BED.—In a certain village the editor of a local newspaper had a room at the hotel. Being absent one night, and the house being crowded, the landlord put a stranger in his bed. The next morning the following lines were found in the room:—

"I slept in an editor's bed last night,
And others may say what they please
I say there's one editor in the world
That certainly takes his ease.
"When I thought of my humble cot, away,
I could not suppress a sigh,
But thought, as I rolled in the feathery nest,
How easily editors lie!"

The editor, after some inquiries of the landlord, made the following addition:—

"The chap whose form has rested here,
And left his copy behind,
For a bad impression should be locked up,
As the cat is most unkind.
"Behold a proof of how he lies:
In the morning he went away,
And like many that use an editor's sheet,
Has forgotten his bill to pay."

Notes and Queries.

MESSRS. WHITEMAN AND BASS, the eminent Photo-Lithographers of 256, High Holborn, have contributed to our collection of reduced photographs of newspapers, a fac-simile of the front-page of the *Building News* of February 19th, which, for clearness and elegance of execution, surpasses any of our previous specimens. They have also sent us some beautifully executed photo-lithographs of architectural designs, for which we are obliged.

J. H. R.—The *Gazzettino Rosa* is a journal of violent principles printed at Milan.

HENRY BENSON.—Henry Crabb Robinson, whose "Diary, Reminiscences, and Correspondence" has recently been published by Macmillan and Co., was in early life connected with the Press. In 1807 he was correspondent of the *Times* at Altona, and for a period subsequently he was foreign editor of that journal. He was the *Times* Correspondent in Spain, and in that capacity was at Corunna at the time of Sir John Moore's death. He is acknowledged to have been an accomplished gentleman and scholar; but as a barrister he never held a brief, and, the companion and confidant of authors, he never wrote a book. In the course of a long life, extending over ninety-two years, he was the friend of Coleridge, Lamb, Wordsworth, Southey, Rogers, Hazlitt, Goethe, Schiller, Wieland, Lafayette, Madame de Staël, Benjamin Constant, and many more of the literary lights of England and the Continent. He died February 5th, 1867.

TYRO.—Not up to the mark.

S. L.—Address, "W. A. Irvine, Esq., Secretary, Provincial Newspaper Society, 112, Strand, W.C."

Obituary.

ALLEN, JAMES P., sub-editor of the *Bristol Times and Mirror*.

BARKER, HORACE, many years on the literary staff, and subsequently printer and publisher of the *Bury Post*.

BEHAN, T. L., many years editor of the *London Gazette*, aged 66.

CALVERT, THOMAS, one of the proprietors of the *Durham Chronicle*, aged 54.

FARRANT, ROBERT, proprietor of the *Wiltshire County Mirror*, aged 63.

LOGAN, HENRY C., late editor of the *San Antonio Herald*, Texas.

MAURICE, CHARLES, 30 years editor of the *Courrier des Théâtres*, of Paris aged 87.

RICHARDSON, T. E., many years proprietor and editor of the *Portland Guardian*, Victoria, Australia.

SPEER, A. R., for more than 20 years editor of the *New Brunswick Times* New Jersey.

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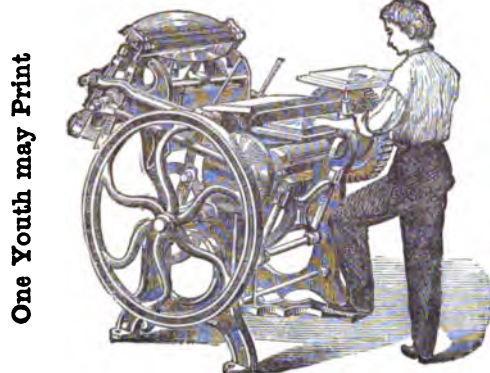
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TESTIMONIALS.

31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

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Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

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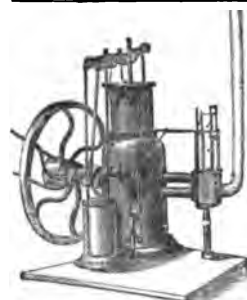
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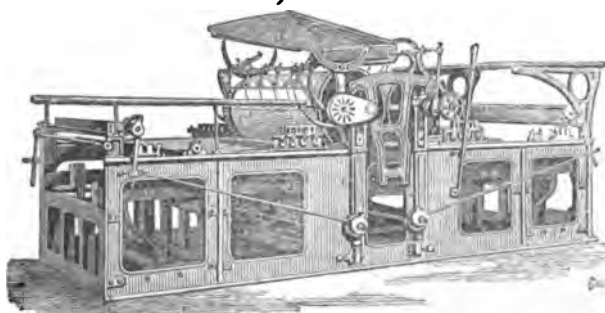
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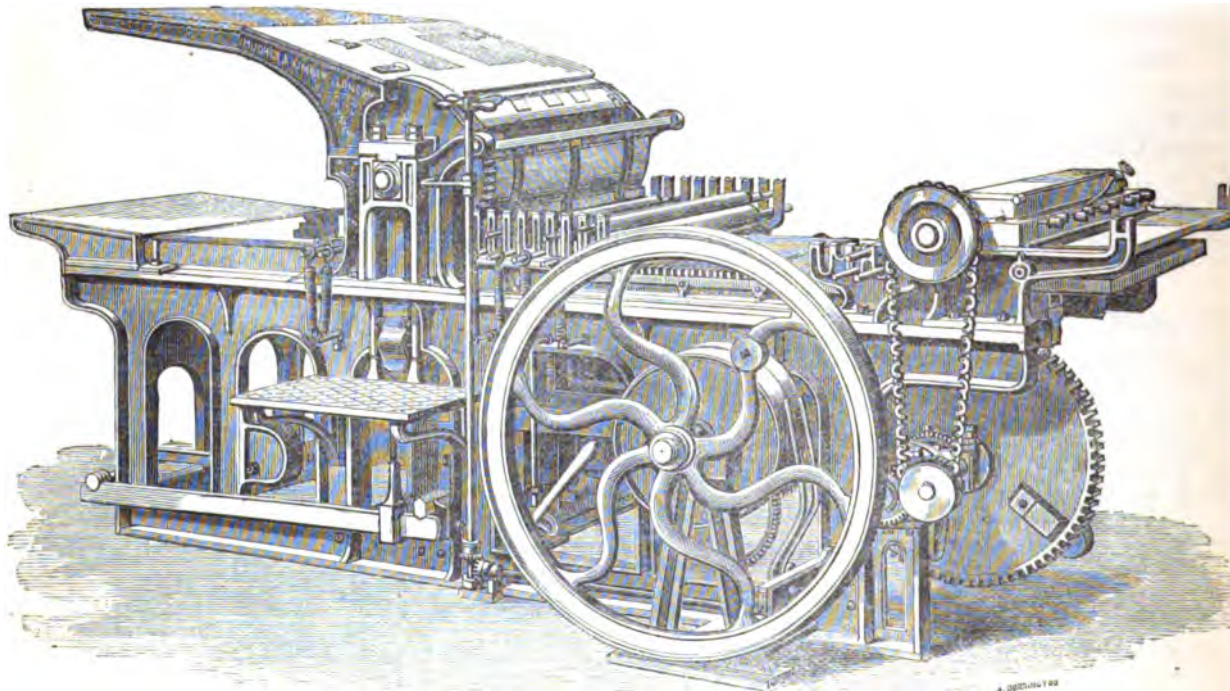
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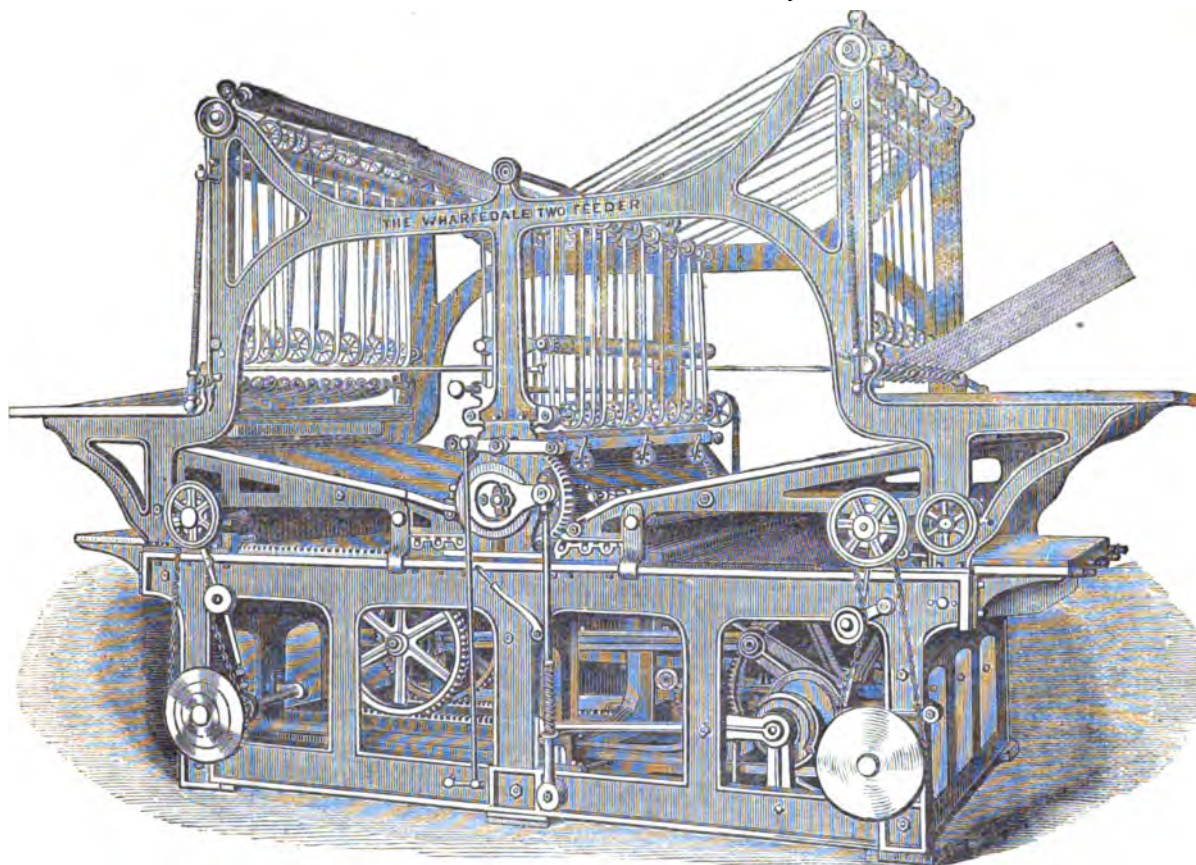
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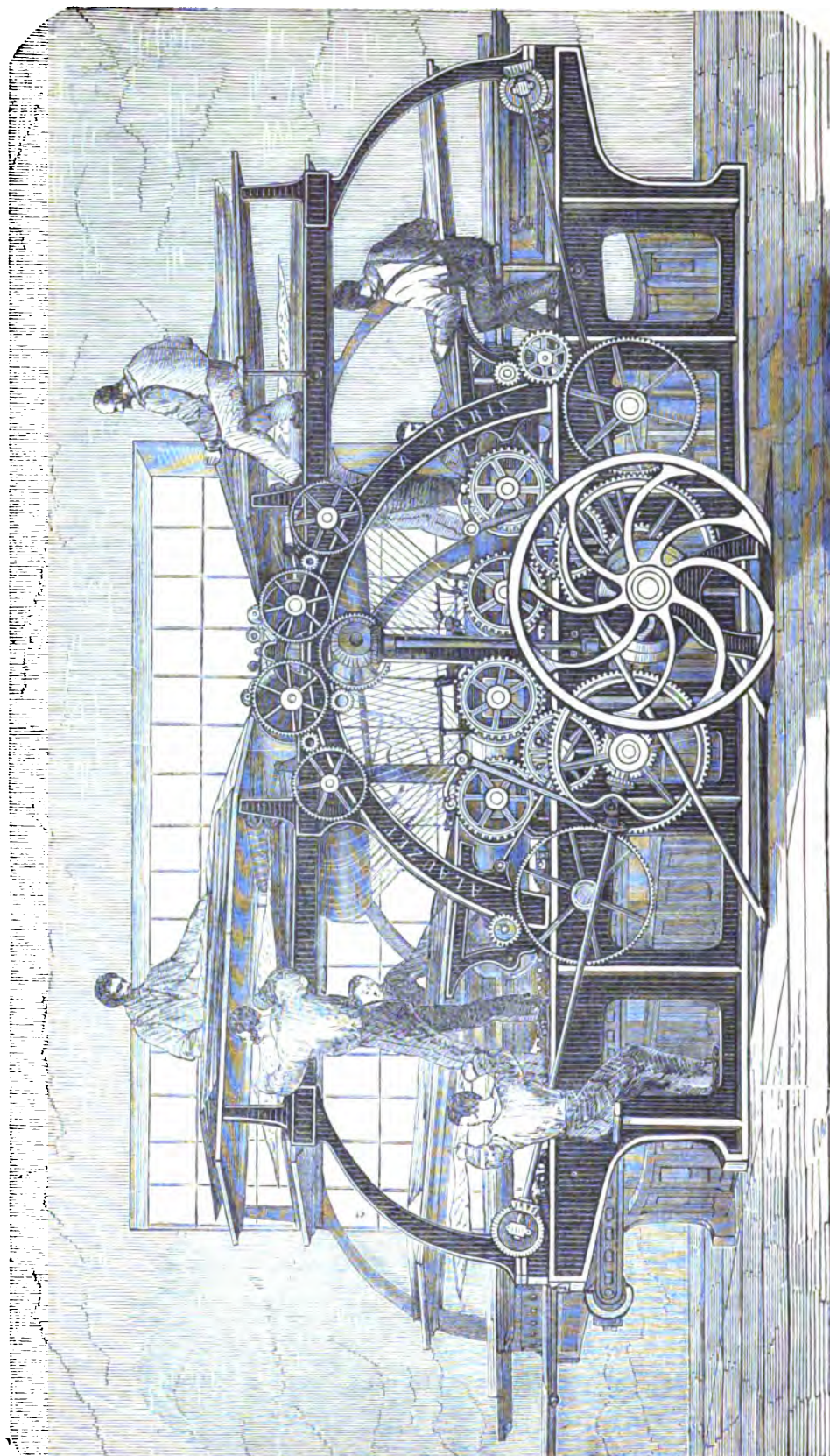
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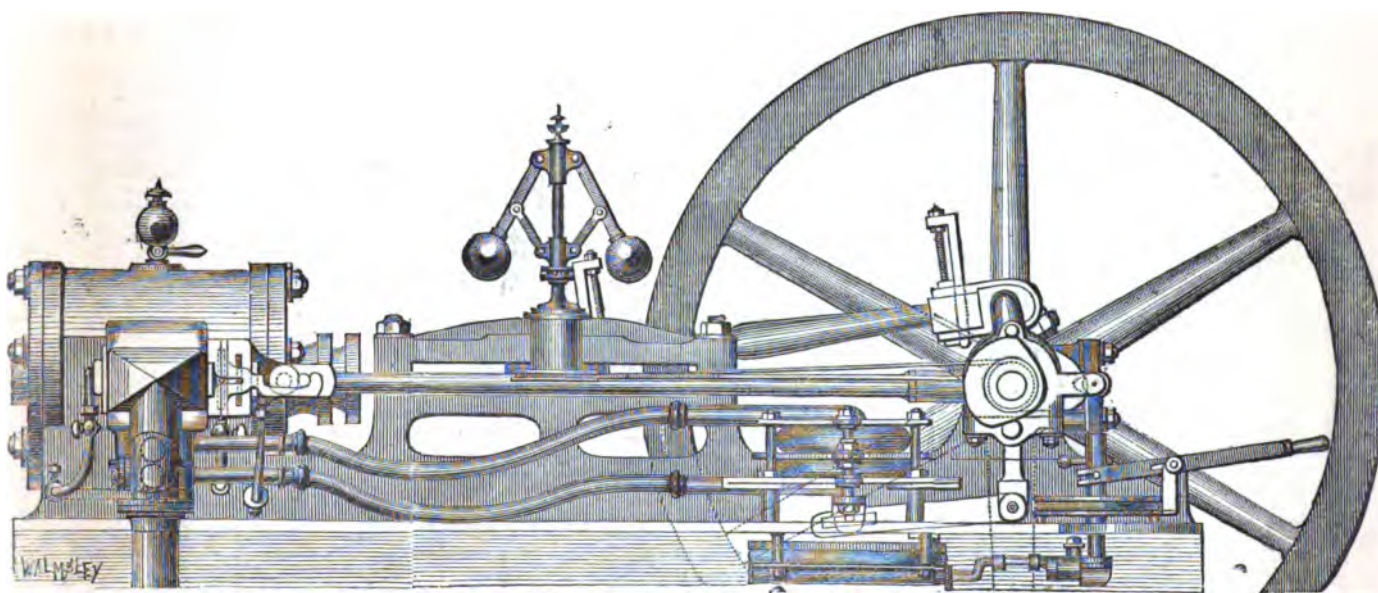
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JUST now, whilst the newspaper world is lingering on the threshold of great changes—changes that must necessarily exercise great influence over such property—newspaper men are asking themselves what will be the newspaper of the future. There are some who are even now putting their barks in order to take advantage of any favourable change of circumstance at the earliest opportunity. The high-priced and wealthy newspaper will no longer be able to command exclusive use of the telegraph. The meanest and paltriest journal in a fifth-rate provincial town will be able to secure the same telegraphic news as the first-class daily. We shall see daily papers multiply in the large towns, and weekly papers become bi-weekly and tri-weekly in country districts.

It is understood that at the present moment the conductors of the *Times* are debating as to how they can secure their pre-eminence in the future. A reduction in price is seriously contemplated, for the *Times* has found that a reduction from fourpence to threepence is worse than no change at all; for the sale is not affected to sufficient extent to repay the loss, nor is the competition sufficiently near to injure the cheaper papers. It is obvious that something will be done, and that speedily. The *Times*, at twopence, would certainly increase its power, influence, and circulation to an immense extent. Twopence will be the price of the eight-paged country paper of the future. There are indications of it on every hand. Only the other day, the *York Herald*, which has a very large stamped circulation, found itself obliged to compete with a troublesome new paper. Instead of reducing the price again, the proprietors started the *York Telegraph*, at one penny for eight pages, to feel the way. The success was large and immediate; for though the news was principally stereotyped, there was plenty of it, and the local news was well abridged; for long reports the public were referred to the parent *Herald*. This reminds one of the succour and assistance given by the *Manchester Guardian* in the early days of provincial daily papers to a penny brother, in order to compete with another penny opponent. The succoured *Telegraph* soon died, and the *Guardian*, on coming down to the universal penny, found itself with renewed power and a vastly increased circulation. Half measures will not be of much avail to the newspaper of the future.

An enterprising proprietor of a bi-weekly paper in a seaport town purposes to issue a halfpenny daily, and to republish the news, as now, in a weekly sheet. But the dry and meagre tele-

graphic summary will hardly satisfy the newspaper reader, unless some pungent additions are made, and full details given of important events.

The management of local journals will no doubt be modified to meet the demand of the age. Already you may see a tendency to make them more and more literary. The general news of the week is greatly abridged; for the majority of their readers see a London or a provincial daily paper. There is a growing tendency to give general topics in a chatty, gossiping kind of form. Even the overgrown and tiresome reports of local meetings are beginning to be judiciously abridged, and a variety of useful matter relating to the bygone history of the place substituted. We have little doubt that the most successful weekly provincial journal of the future will be better written, and a more varied and carefully edited paper than the present era can boast of. The size will be less, and it will be more generally kept as the past and present county history. It is almost impossible to produce such a paper at present, because the provincial newspaper proprietor will not pay, nor can he afford to pay, for the literary labour in producing it. The literary man who would feel a pleasure in producing such a model paper, finds a better market elsewhere for his wares, and, what is far more agreeable, an appreciative audience. Yet there are provincial newspapers which display a high degree of care and ability, and we are glad to observe, with great success. At present, the local antiquarian rather avoids contact with newspapers, but this will not be so in the not distant future.

A great point will be gained when the proposed alteration of the postage rate takes place. At present there are two well marked parties in the field. The one simply asks that the postage rate shall be reduced to one halfpenny for one transmission of a newspaper, leaving the question of weight and size of the paper as at present. The other party ask that the weight shall be restricted to two ounces, and to this party the postal authorities are supposed to have listened very attentively, particularly as it does not interfere with the rates at present used. Something must be done for uniformity. The mere extra dampness of the sheet when just printed will sometimes turn the scale against the paper if this scheme of weighing the papers is carried into effect. The only feasible scheme is that mentioned in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* for September for the Government to issue stamped franks to the newspaper offices at one half penny each and deface the stamps at the place of delivery. The postage will then be received in bulk as under the present system. Some returns can be made of the extent of the stamped circulation and all the papers will be placed on an equal footing. The supposed injustice of charging the smaller papers the same as the larger ones, is certainly not greater than charging a letter one penny for going to the next village, whilst no larger sum is charged if it goes from one end of the Kingdom to the other.

The newspaper of the future will be perfectly free. Its character will be higher; its tone better. Paper will be cheaper, and composition cheaper; for it will probably be done by machinery. Type and ink are now at fair prices. A larger sum will be paid to the literary *employés* whose brains are used in its production.

It has long been matter of wonderment how the *Morning Star* contrived to protract a seemingly aimless existence; the main purpose of its foundation had been achieved, and its demise had been long forecast. Time was when it was read with more avidity in the reading-room of the House of Commons than it ever inspired among the outside public, because it was known to be the exponent of the policy of Mr. Bright and those who "acted with

him." It was, in fact, the only daily organ attached to a "party," small but compact. The reduction of the price of the *Daily News* to a penny was expected to be the death-blow of the *Star*; yet it struggled feebly on, and dropped out of the list of "dailies" almost unnoticed and unmissed on the 13th ultimo.

It must be confessed that the *Star* never shone with any very great brilliancy. Its literary notices were, on the whole, perhaps, the best written of its articles, and it, at one time, sought advertisement in its "Readings by Starlight;" but its political theories were too wild for an age that has shown, in more than one instance, a distaste for extreme principles. In the words of the pathetic history of Cook Robin, we may say, "Who killed the *Morning Star*? I, said the *Daily News*;" or, "Who killed the *Evening Star*? I, said the *Echo*."

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

XII.—LIABILITY FOR REQUESTING AND "CAUSING TO BE PUBLISHED," LIBELLOUS MATTER.

THE case of *Parkes v. Prescott and Ellis*, was, as Mr. Justice Byles remarked, "one of the first impression, involving principles of great importance and daily application." It was an action for libel, tried before Baron Martin and a special jury, at Westminster, on the 18th June, 1868, when, upon the ruling of the learned judge, a verdict was found for the defendant. Exceptions were taken to that ruling, and the case came on to be argued upon the exceptions, in February last, in the Court of Exchequer Chamber. The Court took time, after very elaborate argument, to consider its judgment, which was delivered at the sittings after Easter term last, to the effect—upon the principal point—that where a person requests another to publish defamatory matter, of which, for the purpose, he gives him a statement, whether in full or in outline, and the other person publishes the matter, adhering to the sense and substance of it, although the language be to some extent his own, the person making the request is liable in an action for libel as "having caused to be printed and published" the matter complained of.

This was the holding of the majority of the judges constituting the Court of Exchequer Chamber on this occasion; but it will be seen by the *seriatim* opinions, which we give below, that there was an equal division of judicial opinion upon the point raised, counting Baron Martin's ruling at the trial as on the side of the minority. The result cannot, therefore, be considered as satisfactory, inasmuch as the decision will not be quotable as an authority binding in any future case upon a similar point.

The facts, as they appeared in evidence at the trial, were that the plaintiff was a tradesman at Paddington, and the defendants were members of the board of guardians for the parish of St. Marylebone; and the action was brought against them in respect of certain statements which they had made at a board meeting, imputing scandalous and disgraceful conduct to the plaintiff in relation to a daughter of his, who was at the time an inmate of the Marylebone Workhouse. The defendant Prescott was chairman of the meeting, and Ellis, the other defendant, was also present, taking part in the proceedings, reports of which were published in the local newspapers—the *Marylebone Mercury* and the *Paddington Times*. The reports were proved to be correct summaries of the proceedings furnished to the papers in question by their own reporters, who, in the ordinary course of their duty, were present at the meeting for the purpose of reporting, as articles of news, any matters occurring there of interest to the inhabitants of the district. The defendants were sought to be made responsible for having caused the reports to be printed and published on the strength of certain expressions made use of by them at the meeting, such as, that "they were glad gentlemen of the Press were present," and "hoped they would notice this scandalous case, and give publicity to it." Baron Martin, however, ruled that there was not sufficient evidence to be submitted to the jury for the purpose of fixing the defendants with liability; and to this ruling the

plaintiff excepted, making, as the principal point for argument, that there was evidence to go to the jury that the libellous matter would not have been published but for the express request of the defendants. The defendants' principal "point" was that there was no evidence to go to the jury that the defendants had caused the defamatory matter to be published, or that they had given any directions for, or done any act towards, the publication.

The holding of Mr. Justice Mellor and Mr. Justice Byles upon the exceptions was to the effect that it was incumbent upon the plaintiff to prove that the defendants had caused to be published the words complained of; and that the evidence did not show what particular parts, or what particular defamatory expressions, were or were not authorized or requested by the defendants to be published. Mr. Justice Mellor held also, expressly, that in order to make a person responsible for a report printed and published by a third person, it ought to be shown that he had seen, or heard read, or that he had dictated the report, or had approved of the statements it contained; and to support the allegation of the defendants having "caused to be printed and published" the matter complained of, there ought to have been evidence of a communication, either verbal or written, made by the defendants, of the entire substance of the libel, to the reporters, as the matter to be published; or that, either before or after the publication, the defendants saw and approved of the particular libels. The expressions used by the defendants indicated only a hope that the Press would notice the case, leaving the mode and manner of giving it publicity to the discretion of the reporters. The learned judge added: "Neither of the summaries was seen by either of the defendants, who were entirely ignorant of the mode in which the reporters might, in their discretion, deal with the proceedings and observations made at the meeting. It appears to me that it would be most pregnant with mischief if every speaker at a meeting, at which reporters for the public Press may be present, could be made responsible, by indictment or action, for what reporters chose, in their discretion, to report in a summary of the proceedings, because he happens to say that he 'hoped that the Press would take notice of the case,' or 'would give publicity to the matter,' or any similar expression."

The judges who differed in opinion with Mr. Justice Mellor, Mr. Justice Byles, and Baron Martin, were Mr. Justice Keating, Mr. Justice Montague Smith, and Mr. Justice Hannen. They were of opinion that the facts of the case afforded evidence fit, at all events, to be laid before the jury, of a request to the reporters to publish an outline or summary of the proceedings; and to publish it in such a way as to show the conduct of the plaintiff to have been disgraceful. "I admit," said Mr. Justice Smith, "that loose expressions of a mere wish or hope that proceedings should be published would not be sufficient to fix liability on defendants in cases like the present. I think the words must be of such a kind, and used in such a manner, as to satisfy the jury that they amounted to, and were in fact, a request to publish. If the words do amount to such a request, and the publication be made in pursuance of it, by the persons to whom it was addressed, then it seems to me the persons making such request would be responsible for the libellous matter so published. Whether the libellous matter is published in pursuance of, and in accordance with, the request, or a departure from it, and so unauthorised, would be a question to be considered on the circumstances of the particular case."

The law applicable to this case having been thus expounded by the majority of the Court of Exchequer Chamber, there will be another trial *at nisi prius* (on the issuing of a *veniri de novo*) upon the facts.

AMONG THE NOVELTIES of the month are the *Gaiety Gazette*, edited by Mr. John Hollingshead, with a "tail" of the usual "hacks," weekly, price twopence; and *Punch and Judy*, also weekly, price one penny, conducted by a former editor of *Fun*.

THE death is announced of Mr. J. C. Bakewell, for some time connected with the *Morning Post*, and well known in the scientific world, which took place on Sunday morning at his residence at Hampstead. Mr. Bakewell was born at Wakefield in 1800, and was the author of "The Natural Evidences of a Future Life," "Philosophical Conversations," "Electric Science," and other works.

CLIPPINGS FROM AN OLD FILE.

LOT THE SECOND.

THE FIRST NAPOLEON AND THE PRESS.—By a decree of the Emperor Napoleon the first, the number of newspapers to be published in each department was limited to *one*, except that of the Seine, which was to be, in this respect, under the control and discretion of the Prefect.

SUBSTITUTION OF NEWSPAPERS.—A curious case was tried in the Court of Queen's Bench, July 17th, 1810, *Lovell v. Waller*, in which the plaintiff, the proprietor of the *Statesman*, brought an action against the defendant, a news-vendor at Canterbury, for supplying to a customer, who had ordered the *Statesman* regularly, a rival paper called the *Alfred* in lieu thereof. The Attorney-General appeared for the plaintiff, and the case was tried before Lord Ellenborough, resulting in a verdict for the plaintiff with one shilling damages and forty shillings costs.

WILLIAM COBBETT does not seem to have had much respect for the Press. In his autobiography he says of his life under his parents' roof, "I do not remember ever having seen a newspaper in the house; and most certainly that privation did not render us less industrious, happy, or free."

THE EARL OF LEICESTER V. THE MORNING HERALD.—On the 29th of June, 1809, was tried in the Court of Common Pleas at Westminster an action brought by the Earl of Leicester against the proprietors of the *Morning Herald* for a libel imputing to him gross immoralities. The damages were laid at £20,000, and Serjeant Best did his best to recover the full amount. The defendants, through Mr. Serjeant Cockle, pleaded that they were not the authors of the slander, but that *flying rumours* were rife as to its truth, which it was their duty as journalists, "in the course of their trade," to make public; and they brought witnesses with a view to confirming them. "Sir James" Mansfield (who was the judge), in summing up, said, "The liberty of the Press was a term *blindly* used by many modern writers and speakers; it did not mean the liberty of speaking political treason or private slander, but it merely meant the liberty of speaking what it chose, liable to the correction of the laws of the land." The jury found for the plaintiff, with £1,000 damages and forty shillings costs.

THE BAD TIME FOR THE PRESS.—On May 6, 1809, George Beaumont, printer of the *British Guardian*, Sunday newspaper, was sentenced by Mr. Justice Grose to two years' imprisonment in Newgate, to pay a fine of £50, and at the expiration of the term to give security for £500 for a libel on the King, signed "Tiberius Gracchus." In the following week we find Hart and White, printer and proprietor of the *Independent Whig*, and sentenced each to thirty-six months' imprisonment for libel, appealing to the House of Lords against their imprisonment, the one in Gloucester and the other in Dorchester gaol, for an offence alleged, to have been committed in London.

THE PRICE OF NEWSPAPERS.—The Act 37th of George the Third, which dealt with the stamp duty on newspapers, contained some curious provisions. The discount allowed on the duty (which was three halfpence on each copy) was 12 per cent., but this discount was allowed only on the condition that the person taking advantage of it should not sell his paper at any price exceeding "sixpence."

THE DAILY PAPERS IN 1809.—In his *Weekly Register* of March 4th, 1809, Cobbett, incidentally speaking of the daily papers, says, "In some of those papers the advertisements amount frequently to forty or fifty pounds a day; three shillings from each advertisement is taken in tax."

"**BELL'S WEEKLY MESSENGER**," with a circulation of 12,600 was set up by ten regular compositors and occasional assistants partly in duplicate pages; it was worked at four extra large presses by eight workmen and four fly boys. The number of its agents was two hundred, to whom it allowed in commission £4,000 per annum. It paid £12,000 per annum in stamps, paper, and advertisement duties. These figures are dwelt upon by honest John Bell with great pride.

A TRUE BLUE NEWSPAPER.—I have before me a copy of the *Somerset County Herald* of April 12th, 1851, printed throughout in blue ink. This was during the battle of Free Trade, the *Herald* being a Protectionist paper.

NOT A SCORE OF YEARS AGO.—The following is a cutting from the *Somerset County Herald* of April 12th, 1851: "It has been said that 'a drowning man will catch at a straw,' and so, writhing under the humiliation and disgrace of being obliged to prove a traitor to his principles (if he ever had any), in order to save his pocket, the writer for the *Somerset County Gazette* has endeavoured to make a handle of a very simple circumstance, and desires to use it to our discredit. Last week, with his usual scurrility (and for which a rev. gentleman at the election dinner has given him the whip), he produced an extract from a pamphlet printed in the jobbing department of the establishment whence issues the *Somerset County Herald*. . . . If he who presumes to show a pattern of religious consistency, can feel nothing dastardly and cowardly in writing and sending (clandestinely) a note to a customer, calculated to injure our repute, he must be utterly lost to all principle; and the man who openly stigmatises himself for the sake of avarice—who cloaks the mean passions of his meaner soul with the semblance of 'disinterestedness,' has rendered himself too contemptible an adversary, and as we can afford to laugh at him, we leave our Protectionist friends to continue to flog this runaway radical Free-trader in the manner that seems to make him angry. It may now be considered that the term which he ventured, undeservedly, to apply to a respectable tradesman of the town, namely, 'Jerry Sneak,' would be far more applicable to himself, and so we 'tail-pipe' him with the cognomen, and will let him run for the amusement of the public."

COPYRIGHT OF NEWS.—In 1837, on the House of Commons being about to go into Committee, respecting the proposed Act for abolishing the high rate of newspaper stamp duty, Sir Robert Inglis inquired whether it was intended to introduce a clause reserving the copyright of articles of intelligence, leading articles, and Parliamentary debates, to the proprietors of newspapers. Mr. Spring Rice expressed his anxiety to secure to the proprietors of newspapers the benefit of the talent and means expended in the support of their establishments; but added that, at that time, he had received a sketch of a Copyright Bill, only from a few newspaper proprietors, and that had been placed in the hands of the Law Officers of the Crown.

SOME SUB-EDITORS.—Sub-editors do not always rise to distinction or create for themselves an immortality. Hodgkinson, of the *Morning Chronicle*, and Perna, of the *Athenæum* (if I am not mistaken), were hardworking, painstaking men. Among half-forgotten editors I have corresponded with abroad are Gibbons Merle, of *Galvani's Messenger*, and John Kaye, of the *Bengal Hurkuru*, a quarter of a century ago.

STATISTICS.—In the year 1848 there were 150 London and 238 English provincial papers; 97 printed in Scotland and 117 in Ireland. The annual consumption of stamps by these papers was as follows:—English papers, 67,476,768; Scotch ditto, 7,497,064; Irish ditto, 7,028,956.

COLERIDGE ON JOURNALISM.—Journalism is the universal Parliament; a written Babel of thought; a confusion of tongues; the cauldron of discussion whence come the armed heads of popular will, the extempore eloquence of the world, the daily pulpit of practical religion.

THE "PUBLIC LEDGER."—In a former volume of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*, I remember seeing this paper described as having now degenerated into a mere price current. This is true, but it should not be forgotten that in its early days, when the property of Newberry, Oliver Goldsmith wrote for it the celebrated Chinese Letters, better known among his collected works as "The Citizen of the World."

SENEX.

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

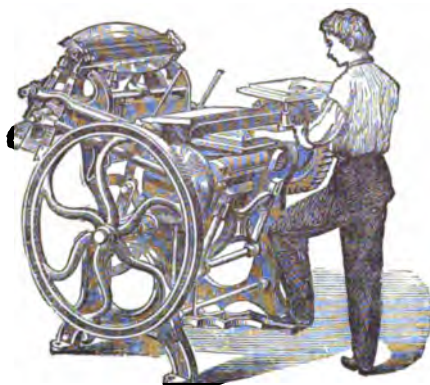
XII.—THE MORNING STAR.

THIRTEEN years only have passed since the *Morning Star* arose as the leader of the Young England party of the future. This month we announce its decease. Hampered by no effete meditations, fettered by no narrow restrictions, bound to neither Whig nor Tory, it arose to propound universal peace, free trade, and unrestricted religious opinion. A dozen years before it would have been the organ of the Chartists, but the Chartists were now no more. The once renowned People's Charter was forgotten; some of its points had become law, others were adopted by what is

H. S. CROPPER & CO.'S PATENT "MINERVA" PRINTING MACHINE.

This is the most Compact, Elegant, and Speedy,
Platen Machine ever made.
CAN BE WORKED BY HAND, FOOT, OR STEAM.

One Youth may Print



2,500 Impressions per Hour.

MAY BE SEEN AT WORK DAILY AT
H. S. CROPPER & Co.'s, NOTTINGHAM,
Patentees and Manufacturers;
AND AT THE OFFICE OF THE LONDON AGENT,
S. CROPPER, 70, CHEAPSIDE.

TESTIMONIALS.

31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

Messrs. H. S. CROPPER and Co.

GENTLEMEN,—We have pleasure in informing you that the "Minerva" Printing Machine, supplied to us about two months ago, gives us entire satisfaction. The simplicity of its arrangement, beauty of construction, and excellence of workmanship, combined with its other qualifications, justify all that you told us in its favour. The ease of its motion, and its great speed, are important features in the "Minerva;" whilst the freedom from danger in working assists in rendering it a very desirable machine.

Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

Messrs. CROPPER and Co., Nottingham.

GENTLEMEN,—We most willingly give our testimony to the value and efficiency of your "Minerva" Machine, especially with regard to its speed and economy. We consider it the most useful time-saving machine that has come under our notice.

We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
CURTIS and BEAMISH.

6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, Lond on, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

DEAR SIR,—We have pleasure in stating that the "Minerva" Machine supplied to us gives satisfaction in every respect. As a Machine for Cards and Small Jobs, we consider it unequalled, both in quality of work and the ease by which Jobs can be started.

Your Machine deserves a large sale.

Yours truly (for M'CORQUODALE and Co.),
D. CULROSS.

Since the above testimonial was given, Messrs. M'Corquodale and Co. have ordered a second machine.

Messrs. CROPPER and Co.

Halifax, 23rd October, 1867.

GENTLEMEN,—The "Minerva" gives entire satisfaction. Every movement is smooth and easy, and the machine may, on this account, be run at a very high speed without danger. The distribution is perfect, and the forme is rolled more evenly than could be done by hand. We are very much pleased with it.

We are, Gentlemen, yours most truly,
T. and W. BRETWHISTLE.

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Elegantly-designed Business Cards
in Litho' and Letter-press.

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PATTERN BOOKS,
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IN A STYLE QUITE NOVEL, AND EXCEEDINGLY
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Pattern Pages and Designs

FURNISHED FREE OF CHARGE, IF RESULTING IN
AN ORDER.

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ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.

H. W. CASLON & CO.,
22 & 23, CHISWELL STREET, LONDON, E.C.

ESTABLISHED 1716.

Manufacturers of every description of NEWSPAPER, BOOK, and JOBBING TYPE, will have much pleasure in forwarding a copy of their Specimen Book on application.

Special attention is given to Newspaper Founts, which are cast in extra Hard Metal, combined with the most accurate manufacture.

The original OLD-FACED LETTERS, engraved in the early part of the Last Century, by the celebrated WILLIAM CASLON, are in this Foundry.

Patent "Moss" Rubber Inking Roller.

S. MOULTON & CO., KINGSTON INDIA RUBBER MILLS, BRADFORD-ON-AVON,

BEG to call the attention of the Printing Trade generally to their PATENT "MOSS" RUBBER INKING ROLLER, composed of a new and homogeneous material of the consistency of Moss, and hermetically sealed in a smooth skin of specially prepared India Rubber.

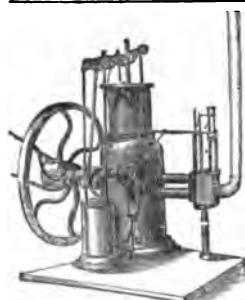
The advantages they claim for these Rollers, as compared with the ordinary Composition Rollers, are,—

1. Their great durability, on account of the unchangeable nature of the material.
2. They are wholly unaffected by any temperature.
3. They are not damaged by brass rule.
4. They are permanently soft and elastic.
5. They can be used immediately after being washed.

These Patent "Moss" Rubber Inking Rollers, can be obtained from no other parties than as above; and Notice is hereby given that the necessary legal steps will be taken where requisite, to protect S. Moulton's Patent for the manufacture of "Moss" Rubber from all infringement.

N.B.—The Ink must be washed off these Rollers before laid by. Alkalies only may be used, such as Pearlash, Potash, or Ammonia. Turpentine, and every kind of Oil, Soft Soap, or Grease, must be carefully avoided. Bisulphuret of Carbon will clean off Coloured Inks.

PRICES.—Machine Rollers, per inch length.—1½ in. and 1¼ in. diameter, 4d.; 2 in., 6d.; 2½ in. 7d.; 2½ in., 7½d.; 3 in., 8d. Charge for Fitting Old Stocks to our Rollers, 3s. 6d. each. Hand Rollers, 3 in. diameter, price 9d. per inch length under 1 foot; 1 foot and upwards, 8d. per inch length. Bushings, 9d. per Roller up to 1 foot; above 1 foot up to 2 feet, 1s. per Roller.



IT REQUIRES NO ENGINEER.
IT REQUIRES NO WATER.

IT REQUIRES NO GAS.
IT REQUIRES NO FITTING.
IT CAN BE STARTED IN A FEW MINUTES.

IT CANNOT EXPLODE.
IT DOES NOT INCREASE INSURANCE.

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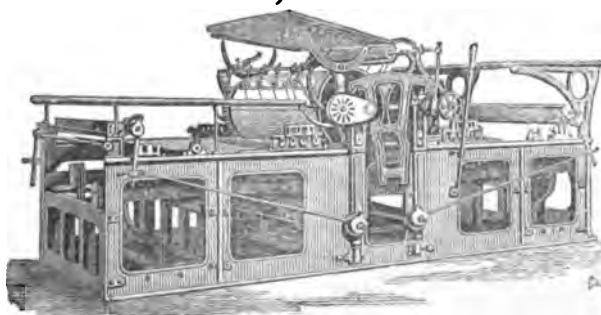
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Steam Engines & Boilers,
&c., &c.

THE MAGISTRACY AND THE PRESS.

(From the *Law Journal*.)

THE Lord Chancellor has lately refused to appoint Mr. Cutbush a magistrate for the borough of Maidstone on the ground that he is connected with the local Press, the *South Eastern Gazette*. Our county contemporaries are excessively annoyed, and protest that "this indignity to the Press will not be allowed to pass in silence." Now, whether the refusal to include the names of gentlemen connected with the local Press be justifiable or not, it is certain that the Lord Chancellor did not intend to offer any indignity to the Fourth Estate. No one knows better than Lord Hatherley the power and importance of the Press, and that it is highly honourable to be a member of the English Press, which is so exceptionally independent and so pre-eminently successful. It happens that the supposed indignity is an evidence of his lordship's high appreciation of the influence of the Press. It is not the least onerous of the duties of provincial newspapers to report and criticise the proceedings of the magistracy. What would be the effect of a gentleman intimately associated with a leading local newspaper sitting on the bench? Adverse comments would naturally and inevitably promote a feeling of ill-will in the minds of the censured magistrates against the "Press magistrate" in whose paper appeared the condemnatory criticism. On the other hand, when the conduct of the magistracy was defended, the public would be under the impression that the favourable comments were inspired by the "Press magistrate." In the one instance the concord of the bench would be in jeopardy, and in the other, the just and salutary influence of the Press would be impaired. Such, we understand, are the views of the Lord Chancellor. They may not be approved by our county contemporaries, but they completely exonerate his lordship from the charge of offering an indignity to the Press.

Correspondence.

THE JAPAN "PUNCH."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—A few months ago one of your correspondents doubted my assertion as to the existence of the *Japan Punch*. At that time I had not a copy by me, but have by the last mail received a copy of *Punch* and *Judy*, both published in Yokohama. They hardly come under our definition of a newspaper, being published, I believe, at long intervals. They are, however, curiosities, and if you would like to examine them and convince yourself and any of your correspondents of their existence, I will forward them if you will undertake to return them. You could retain two or three weeks for any one to see at your office if you think proper. [We should be glad to avail anybody of your kind offer, and will take express care of these literary curiosities.—ED. N. P.]

Yours respectfully,

J. H. C.

Sunderland, Oct. 25, 1868.

NEW WEEKLY PAPER FOR FREEMASONS.—There is being privately circulated the prospectus of another forthcoming weekly periodical for Freemasons. Among the matter promised is, "The True History of Freemasonry, tracing its foundation to the Shepherd Kings."

THE PERIODICAL WORLD.—Mr. Grove is the new editor of "Macmillan's Magazine." Mr. S. R. Townshend Mayer has resigned the editorship of the "Churchman's Shilling Magazine." The new magazine, "Nature," will be published at No. 9, Southampton-street, W.C., under the superintendence of Mr. J. M. Jones, late of the firm of Aylott and Jones, of Paternoster-row. The publication of "Now-a-Days," a journal devoted to the interests of women, is deferred till the 1st of December. The magazine will then be enlarged. The "Animal World" is the title of a beautifully got up twopenny monthly magazine advocating kindness to animals. Among its contributors are Frank Buckland, Mary Howett, Mrs. S. C. Hall, &c., &c. Messrs. Shrimpton, of Oxford have just brought out the first number of "The Oxford University Magazine and Review." The "North British Quarterly Review" is now under the editorship of Sir John Acton.

The Foreign Press.

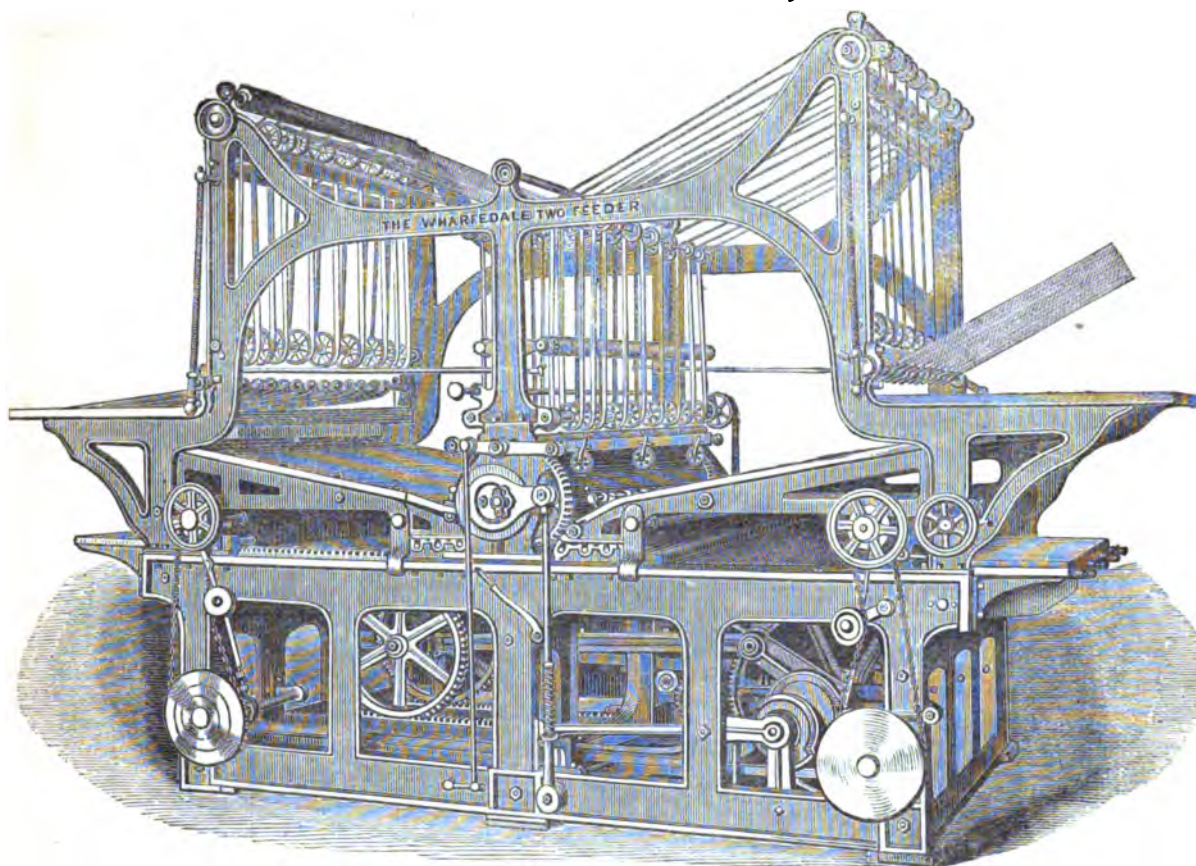
FRANCE.

PARIS, October 26.

It being the dead season of the year, the Emperor unwell, the Empress on her Oriental tour, the Legislative Bodies not in session, and the fashionable world in the country, the newspapers have had a dreary time of it, suffering greatly from atrophy, as they literally had no food wherewith to fill their columns. But just as things were at their very lowest ebb came a godsend for them in the shape of the sensational tragedy in the fields of Pantin; and it would have done good to the hearts of the most inveterate English penny-a-liners to see with what avidity their hungry French colleagues grasped at the opportunity to earn their dinners. Even editors of many of the papers were seized with the mania, and became for the nonce amateur detectives, rushing with frantic speed to the Provinces to make discoveries in Alsatia, at Roubaix, at Havre, and elsewhere, and sending in lengthy reports more remarkable for their verbosity than the narration of facts bearing on the case. There was a regular race to obtain intelligence; they most inquisitorially examined everybody from whom they thought they could extract even the slightest scrap of information to make up a sensational paragraph. But there was a large mass of absurdity published. We were circumstantially informed of the very minute the murderer arrived at Havre, the name of the porter he employed (with a biography of porter No. 17), what hotel he went to, what he said to the landlady (biography of that respectable female, how many children she has, and their names and ages), what he said to the chambermaid (with a biographical sketch of that interesting young woman), what the gendarme said to him (biography of that functionary, with remarks on his prospects of reward and promotion), and what happened next. In such cases, many things are often incorrectly stated,—sometimes on purpose, to make room for a more accurate description the next day, and then the reporters frequently fall foul of each other. Thus the *Gaulois* related with great gravity that a butcher's wife in the Faubourg St. Antoine, on seeing one of the dead bodies, exclaimed in a heart-rending state of agitation: "My sister, my poor sister!" And then, turning to the bystanders, added, "I expected her to come to the christening of the infant I am about to be delivered of." On the next day, the reporter of the *Figaro*, angry at having missed such an important piece of intelligence, cries, "It is quite unfounded; for we have made special inquiry, and ascertained, from undoubted authority, that there is not a single butcher's wife in the whole Faubourg St. Antoine who expects her confinement shortly." Fancy a reporter going into every butcher's shop in one of the most populous Faubourgs of Paris, with the abrupt question (for he has of course no time to lose in beating about the bush), "Pray, Sir, is your wife in the family-way?" He does not tell us how many times he got kicked out of the shop for his impertinence. One illustrated paper publishes a picture of the room at the Morgue with the six corpses—a disgusting scene, and moreover badly drawn and incorrectly represented. Some of the journals have published topographical maps of the locality, and one even gives an authentic picture of the pickaxe and shovel with which the murderer dug the graves to bury his victims in. Some of your readers may be captious, and inclined to consider the above as trivial; but I deem it my duty, as your correspondent, to put it on record, as a reflection of the state of journalism at Paris in the year of grace 1869.

Whilst in commercial legislation the Imperial government, in many respects, conforms by degrees to the doctrines of free trade, and this country appreciates the benefits derived from the Cobden treaty, the prohibitive system, as regards foreign literature, is, I regret to state, in full swing here, and has been so for the last seventeen years. With the exception of the *Times*, which appears to be considered innocent and harmless, and thus enjoys the immunity of a free passport, all the foreign journals were brought to the Press bureau for examination on their arrival; and for whole months the consecutive numbers of some of the most eminent and ably-conducted newspapers in Europe—especially those of Germany—were sacrificed to the moloch of the waste-paper basket, and never delivered to their subscribers in France. It

ASHFIELD FOUNDRY, OTLEY, YORKSHIRE.



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WITH PATENT FLYERS, FOR DELIVERING THE SHEETS PRINTED SIDE UPWARDS.

WILLIAM DAWSON AND SONS, PRINTERS' ENGINEERS, AND MANUFACTURERS OF

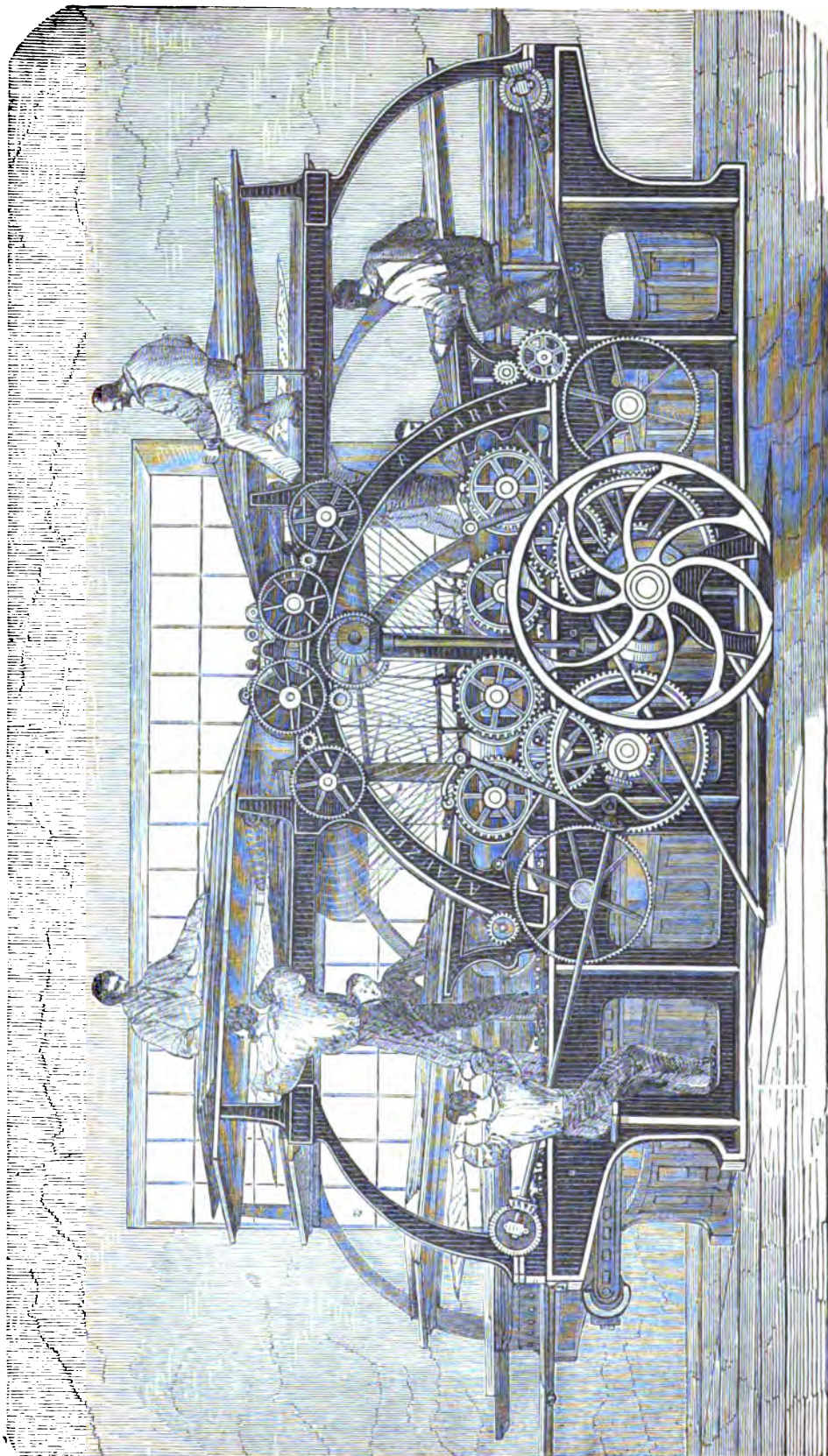
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 „ DIAGONAL AND VERTICAL PAPER CUTTING MACHINES for Steam and Hand Power.
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Also, Millboard and Card Cutting Machines, Label Cutting Machine for Steam and Hand Power, Rolling Machine for Bookbinders and Printers, with Cast and Chilled Rollers; Paper Ruling Machines, Perforating Machines, Ink Grinding Mills, for Steam Power; Athol and Screw Presses, Steam Engines, Boilers, Shafting, &c.; Book-Sawing and Book-Scoring Machines, Iron Imposing Surfaces and Stands, Machine and Press Roller Moulds, Wrought and Cast Iron Chases, Side and Foot Sticks.

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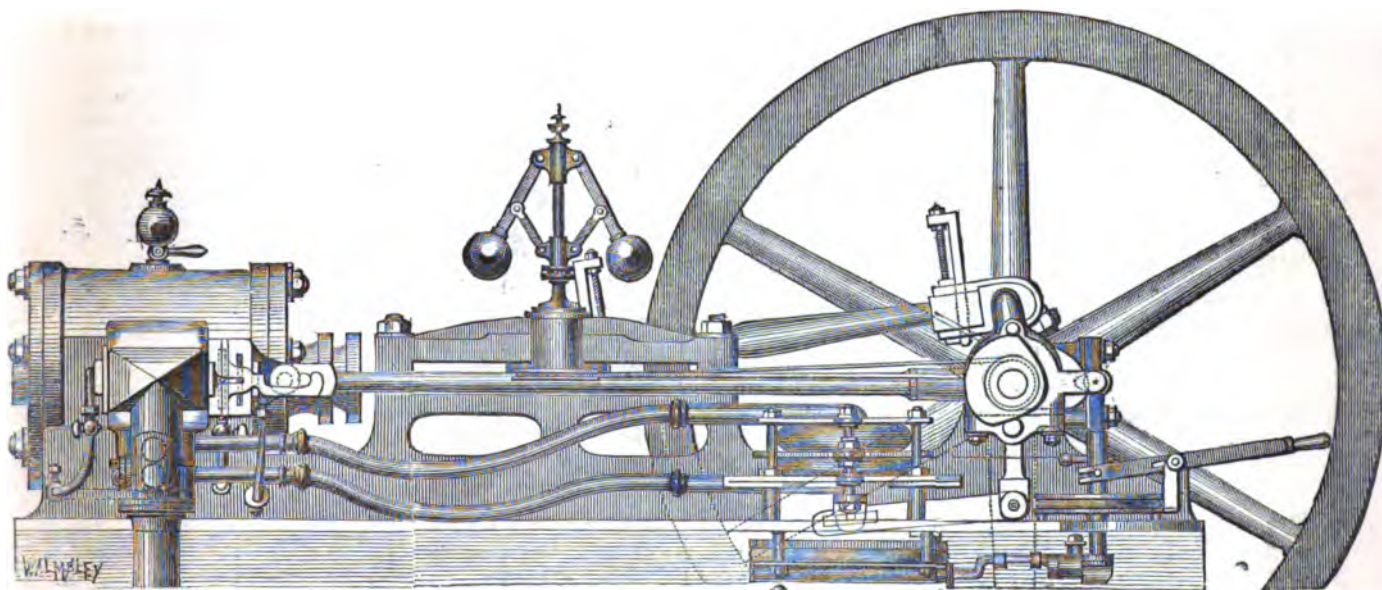
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To Start or Stop the Engine, all that is necessary is to Turn the Gas On or Off.



Particulars, Testimonials, and numerous References may be obtained on application, and the Engine seen at Work.

FRED. B. VALLANCE,
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Price, Delivered in London — Quarter-Horse Power, £40; Half-Horse Power, £65; One-Horse Power, £85; Two-Horse Power, £110; Three-Horse Power, £130.

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Lithographic Cylinder Printing Machines
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A DOUBLE-DEMY LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING MACHINE,
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Will Print a Stone 36×26.

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DOUBLE PLATEN MACHINE (Imperial), by BROWN, Kirk-
 caldy, in excellent order, for sale, cheap.

WHARFEDALE MACHINES.—A Second-hand SUPER
 ROYAL (by DAWSON), for best colour work, and a DOUBLE-
 DEMY DITTO (Second-hand), by DAWSON, for sale.
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 receives instructions at his office, The Oaks' Crescent, Wolverhampton,
 to supply full or summarised reports of the iron, coal, and hardware trades of
 the West Midlands. Especial facilities. Established in Wolverhampton
 17 years. Writes upon trade topics in leading columns of papers of first
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Just now, whilst the newspaper world is lingering on the threshold of great changes—changes that must necessarily exercise great influence over such property—newspaper men are asking themselves what will be the newspaper of the future. There are some who are even now putting their barks in order to take advantage of any favourable change of circumstance at the earliest opportunity. The high-priced and wealthy newspaper will no longer be able to command exclusive use of the telegraph. The meanest and paltriest journal in a fifth-rate provincial town will be able to secure the same telegraphic news as the first-class daily. We shall see daily papers multiply in the large towns, and weekly papers become bi-weekly and tri-weekly in country districts.

It is understood that at the present moment the conductors of the *Times* are debating as to how they can secure their pre-eminence in the future. A reduction in price is seriously contemplated, for the *Times* has found that a reduction from fourpence to threepence is worse than no change at all; for the sale is not affected to sufficient extent to repay the loss, nor is the competition sufficiently near to injure the cheaper papers. It is obvious that something will be done, and that speedily. The *Times*, at twopence, would certainly increase its power, influence, and circulation to an immense extent. Twopence will be the price of the eight-paged country paper of the future. There are indications of it on every hand. Only the other day, the *York Herald*, which has a very large stamped circulation, found itself obliged to compete with a troublesome new paper. Instead of reducing the price again, the proprietors started the *York Telegraph*, at one penny for eight pages, to feel the way. The success was large and immediate; for though the news was principally stereotyped, there was plenty of it, and the local news was well abridged; for long reports the public were referred to the parent *Herald*. This reminds one of the succour and assistance given by the *Manchester Guardian* in the early days of provincial daily papers to a penny brother, in order to compete with another penny opponent. The succoured *Telegraph* soon died, and the *Guardian*, on coming down to the universal penny, found itself with renewed power and a vastly increased circulation. Half measures will not be of much avail to the newspaper of the future.

An enterprising proprietor of a bi-weekly paper in a seaport town purposes to issue a halfpenny daily, and to republish the news, as now, in a weekly sheet. But the dry and meagre tele-

graphic summary will hardly satisfy the newspaper reader, unless some pungent additions are made, and full details given of important events.

The management of local journals will no doubt be modified to meet the demand of the age. Already you may see a tendency to make them more and more literary. The general news of the week is greatly abridged; for the majority of their readers see a London or a provincial daily paper. There is a growing tendency to give general topics in a chatty, gossiping kind of form. Even the overgrown and tiresome reports of local meetings are beginning to be judiciously abridged, and a variety of useful matter relating to the bygone history of the place substituted. We have little doubt that the most successful weekly provincial journal of the future will be better written, and a more varied and carefully edited paper than the present era can boast of. The size will be less, and it will be more generally kept as the past and present county history. It is almost impossible to produce such a paper at present, because the provincial newspaper proprietor will not pay, nor can he afford to pay, for the literary labour in producing it. The literary man who would feel a pleasure in producing such a model paper, finds a better market elsewhere for his wares, and, what is far more agreeable, an appreciative audience. Yet there are provincial newspapers which display a high degree of care and ability, and we are glad to observe, with great success. At present, the local antiquarian rather avoids contact with newspapers, but this will not be so in the not distant future.

A great point will be gained when the proposed alteration of the postage rate takes place. At present there are two well marked parties in the field. The one simply asks that the postage rate shall be reduced to one halfpenny for one transmission of a newspaper, leaving the question of weight and size of the paper as at present. The other party ask that the weight shall be restricted to two ounces, and to this party the postal authorities are supposed to have listened very attentively, particularly as it does not interfere with the rates at present used. Something must be done for uniformity. The mere extra dampness of the sheet when just printed will sometimes turn the scale against the paper if this scheme of weighing the papers is carried into effect. The only feasible scheme is that mentioned in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* for September for the Government to issue stamped franks to the newspaper offices at one half penny each and deface the stamps at the place of delivery. The postage will then be received in bulk as under the present system. Some returns can be made of the extent of the stamped circulation and all the papers will be placed on an equal footing. The supposed injustice of charging the smaller papers the same as the larger ones, is certainly not greater than charging a letter one penny for going to the next village, whilst no larger sum is charged if it goes from one end of the Kingdom to the other.

The newspaper of the future will be perfectly free. Its character will be higher; its tone better. Paper will be cheaper, and composition cheaper; for it will probably be done by machinery. Type and ink are now at fair prices. A larger sum will be paid to the literary *employés* whose brains are used in its production.

It has long been matter of wonderment how the *Morning Star* contrived to protract a seemingly aimless existence; the main purpose of its foundation had been achieved, and its demise had been long forecast. Time was when it was read with more avidity in the reading-room of the House of Commons than it ever inspired among the outside public, because it was known to be the exponent of the policy of Mr. Bright and those who "acted with

He is to receive £1,000 a year, and £1,000 down in the event of the engagement being terminated by Mr. Whitty, the proprietor. A farewell dinner was given to him on the night of the 22nd ult., at the Junior Garrick Club, by a party of his journalistic and theatrical friends, on the occasion of his leaving London to assume his new office. John Oxenford, Esq., dramatic critic of the *Times*, occupied the chair, and proposed Mr. Russell's health in highly complimentary terms.

MR. J. A. LANGFORD, for a long time connected with the Birmingham Press, and the author of "A Century of Birmingham Life," and other works, has received the degree of LL.D. from the College of Greenville and Tusculum, in the State of Tennessee, United States of America. The diploma assigns general literary knowledge and ability as the reason for which the degree is conferred.

THE "ARROW."—A diminutive sheet has reached us with the above title, purporting to be, "No. 1, Saturday, October 2nd, 1869;" but whether merely by way of prospectus, specimen, or complete number we are not quite clear. It promises that, "on the seventh day in every week, the *Arrow* will flash before the people of England, a sign that, though tyranny shall always exist, so also shall its opponents." It takes its motto from Dryden, "These times want other aids."

MR. G. KEPPLE HALL, correspondent of the New York *Times*, and a well-known writer, is at present in London, having lately arrived in Europe by the French steamer *St. Laurent*, on his way to Suez, where he will act as representative of our great New York contemporary at the ceremonies on opening the Canal. We understand it to be his intention to give a series of lectures during his short stay in London—a mode of amusement and instruction which has not yet been developed in England as fully as it ought to be.—*Anglo-American Times*.

"THE ILLUSTRATED MIDLAND NEWS."—The new illustrated paper creditably maintains its position. In the last number of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* allusion was made to the difficulty yet desirability of illustrating current events. Several occurrences have since transpired within the more immediate district of this new venture which have since enabled it to show that it can do so quickly and do so well. It has a metropolitan character, too, which cannot fail to vastly extend its sphere of operation, for in information, literature, and art it is quite equal to average specimens of the same class of journalism. Its size and price allow it to challenge comparison with the *Illustrated London News*. It is equal in many departments to the *Illustrated Times*; it is better than the *Illustrische Zeitung* or *L'Illustration Française*. It displays no little critical acumen, and there is a cheerful, healthy tone about it which will go far to make the *Illustrated Midland News* an established fireside companion. The advertisements exhibit its present vitality, and we venture to prophecy that as long as the present management continues, it will be successful as well as creditable.

THE SINGULARLY BAD TASTE of a recent cartoon in the *Tomahawk* has been severely commented on in literary circles. It is entitled, "Cause and Effect"—the "cause" being apparently the ejection of a tatterdemalion tenant from his house, and the "effect," the dead body of the landlord, prostrate on the ground, and the assassin escaping through the hedge. The artist (let us charitably hope, not encumbered with Irish property), having but so superficial a notion of a problem that puzzles wiser heads, might have refrained from an offence to public feeling, and a self-exposure of the barrenness of his wit. If this sort of thing "pays," we can only say we are sorry for it—and very sorry for the editor and artist.

THE London Correspondent of the *Scotsman* has learned that the Postmaster-General has given his assent to the halfpenny postage for newspapers on two conditions—"first, that the halfpenny stamp shall be available for only one day; and second, that the publishers of the newspapers using the stamp shall themselves impress the date upon it." The writer adds: "As to the first of these regulations, I presume it means that a paper bearing the halfpenny stamp will be carried if put into the post any time before midnight on the day, the date of which is marked on the stamp, but after that the stamp will be worthless. As to the stamping of the date on the paper, the object of throwing that duty on the publishers or other persons availing themselves of the halfpenny postage, is of course to save expense to the Post

Office. It is expected that such a vast quantity of newspapers will be sent through the post on the reduction of the stamp, that the mere process of "marking" would require such an addition to the Post-office staff throughout the country as would render the project for financial reasons quite impracticable."

NEW "SPIRITUAL" ORGAN.—On Friday, November 19th, 1869, the first number of *The Spiritualist*, price threepence, fortnightly, will be published. *The Spiritualist* will give all the latest news relating to spiritualism, together with shorthand reports of public meetings of interest to those connected with the movement. Publisher, Mr. E. W. Allen, Ave Maria-lane, St. Paul's-churchyard, London, E.C.

THE "LONDON GAZETTE."—The decease of Mr. T. L. Behan, the editor and superintendent of the Government organ of official announcements, was noticed in the last number of THE *NEWSPAPER PRESS*. As was then stated, it was contemplated to abolish the editorship as a separate office. Mr. Bright supported that procedure, it is said, but the appointment mainly rested with the Home and Foreign Secretaries, and they were in favour of continuing the office. Out of a host of applicants, distinguished in politics and literature, Mr. Thomas Walker and Mr. Blanchard Jerrold were selected as the most suitable candidates. The ultimate choice was referred to Mr. Gladstone as Prime Minister. The result was the appointment of Mr. Walker—an able, hard-working, honourable journalist, who for many years was sub-editor of the *Daily News*, and succeeded to the chief direction on the death of Mr. Weir. Both gentlemen are well known in the newspaper world, and their selection was a well-merited compliment to eminent services on the Press. The post is worth about £800 a year, and there is no doubt that the selection of Mr. Walker will give satisfaction.

Obituary.

BAKEWELL, J. C., many years connected with the *Morning Post*.

BOHANNA, JOHN, many years agent of the New York Associated Press, at Mobile.

BRATER, DR. CARL, founder and proprietor of the *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, at Munich.

CORKEAN, SUTTON, one of the proprietors of *Barrow's Worcester Journal*.

COURTNEY, KELLY, Parliamentary reporter, Oct. 13th.

MITCHELL, J. T., sub-editor of the *Dundee Advertiser*, aged 30.

PERRINO, ROBERT, many years editor of the *Carlisle Patriot*.

SAINT-BEUVE, C. A., an eminent journalist of Paris.

SANDERS, REV. W., an occasional contributor to the *Times* and other journals.

WHITE, S. A., senior editor of the *Victoria (Texas) Advocate*, Sept. 2nd.

WRIGHT, CHARLES H., city editor of the *Chicago Times*, and an old journalist.

Notes and Queries.

S. R. J.—*French* completed its fiftieth (half-yearly) volume in 1866, on which occasion (28th June) the writers and artists dined together at Maidenhead, when a beautiful loving-cup was presented by the proprietors to Mark Lemon, the editor, as well as a very handsome testimonial from his "team" of "funny dogs with comic tales."

PRESS GANG.—See our August No.; you will therein find the information you are in search of.

SANS REPROCHE.—It is truly scandalous. The "popular artist" who is weekly satirising the foibles of mankind should have himself set a better example than an appearance in the Bankruptcy Court.

J. C.—We will bear you in memory.

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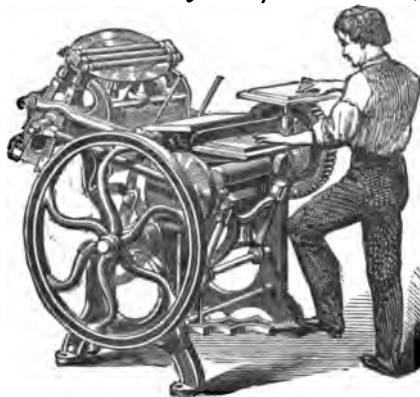
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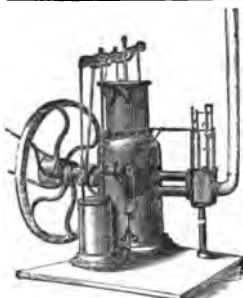
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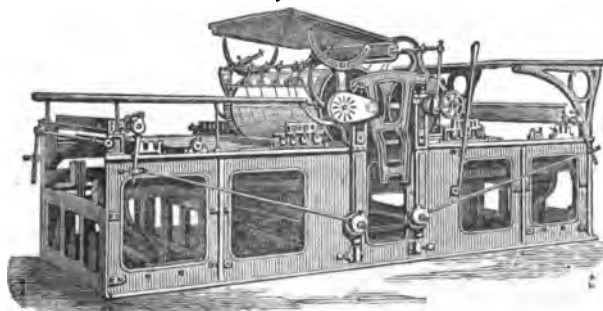
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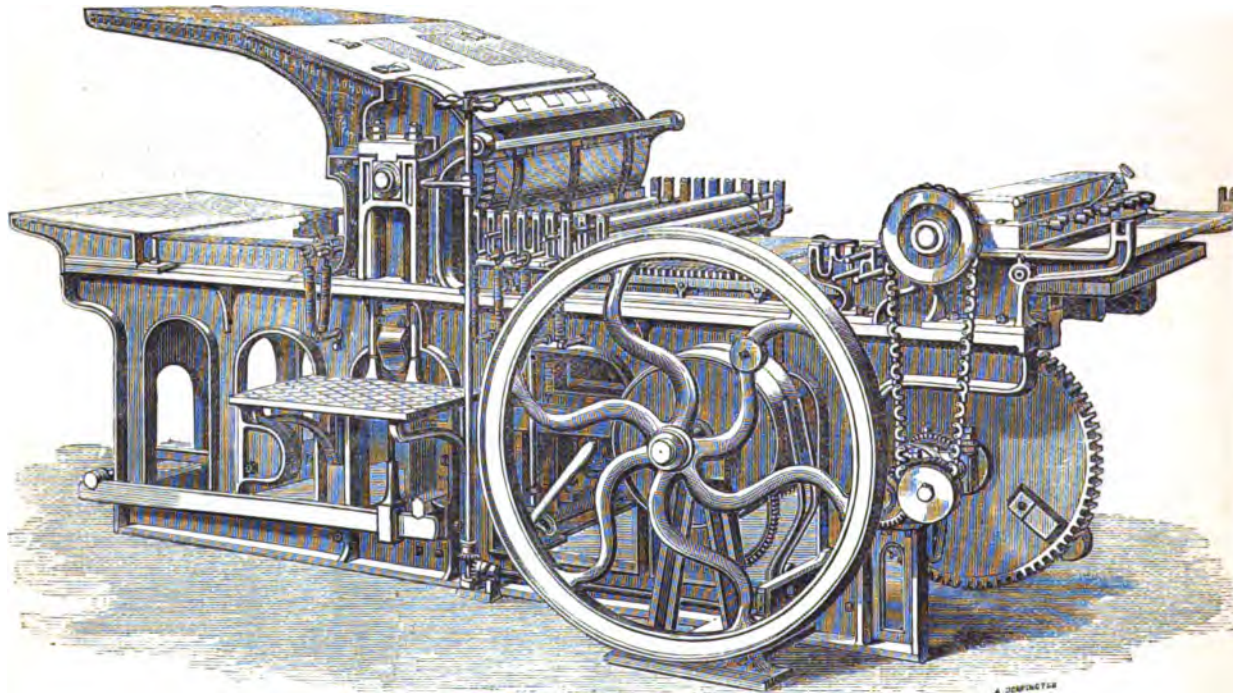
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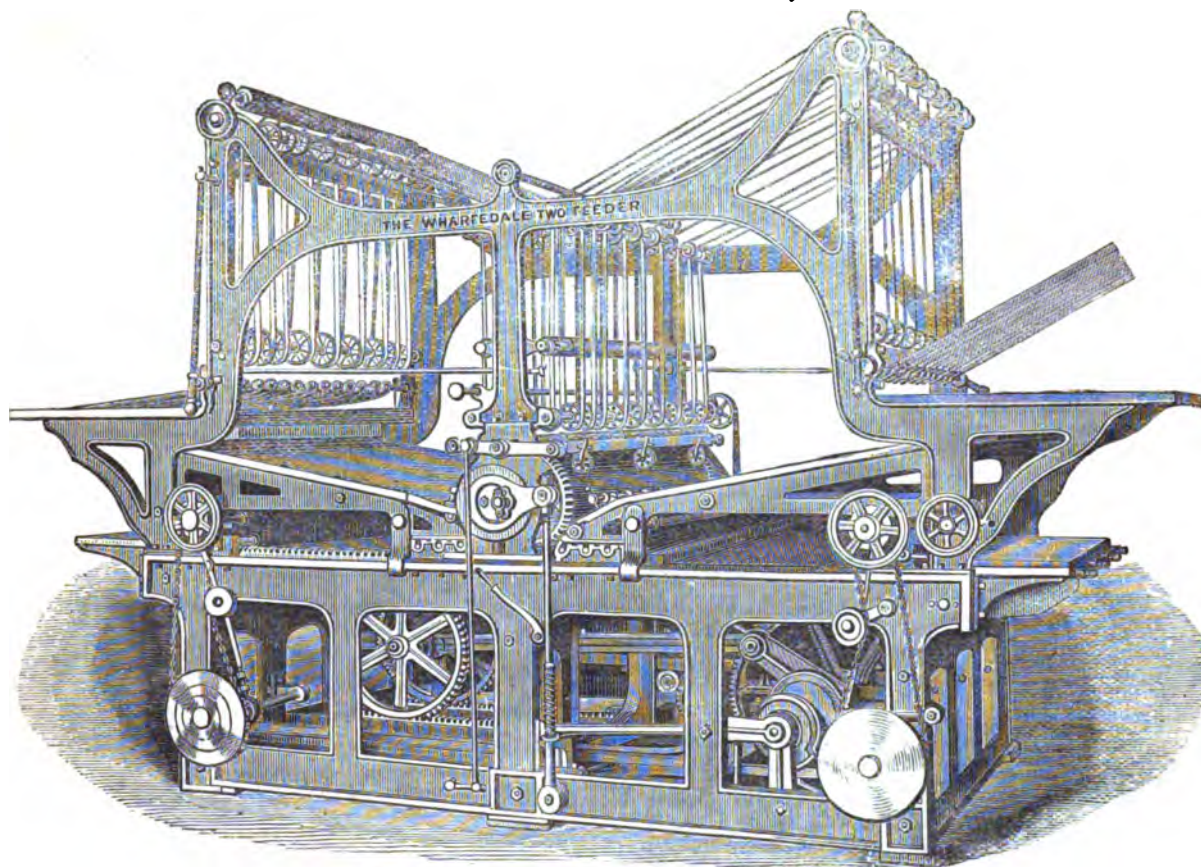
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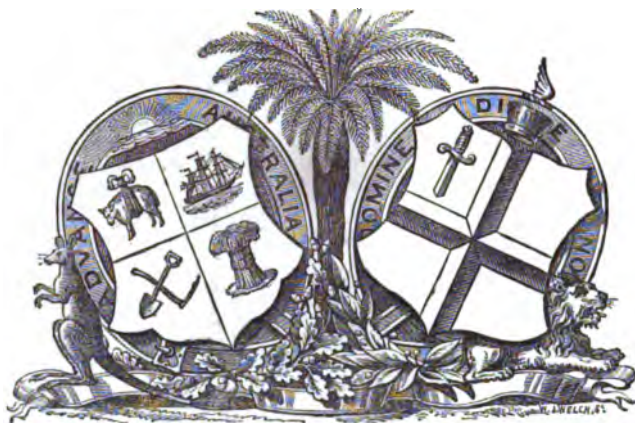
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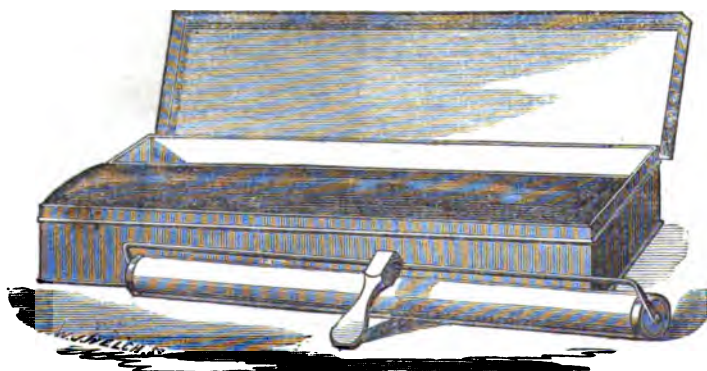
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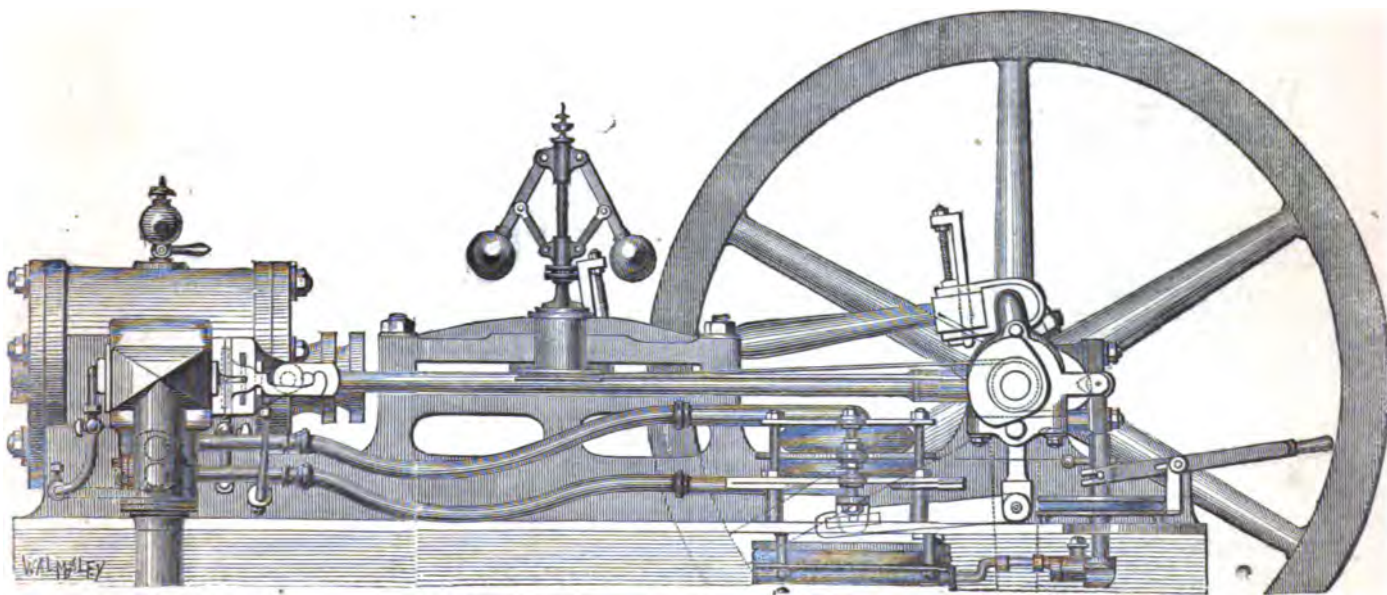
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E. W. ALLEN, Publisher, 11, Ave Maria-lane, E.C.

LAST month marked off another year in the pleasant life of the NEWSPAPER PRESS, and to-day, still surrounded by our old friends and with a goodly accession of welcome guests to our circle of readers, we open a new volume. We have only to repeat what we said on the similar occasion of last year—that, having apparently hit the tastes of our subscribers, we have no changes in contemplation; but we can refer with satisfaction to the accompanying announcement that we should continue our endeavours to add to our sources of information. We believe we have fulfilled that promise. We have secured additional correspondents in the European capitals, and added to our staff of contributors several well-known writers who have already given good earnest of their future work. Among other arrangements, we had engaged the valuable services of William Jerdan, the founder and editor of the *Literary Gazette*, but the practised pen dropped for ever from his hand as he was making notes for his first article. We are now in negotiation for series of papers illustrative of the past and present state of journalism, by men well acquainted with their subject; and, in the current number, we open a set of articles on "The Rank and File of the Press" by a writer well competent to handle the topic. We shall not tire in our exertions while we are so well supported and encouraged and they are so well rewarded by approval.

We may take this opportunity of making a personal statement which is due from us in reply to a friendly suggestion of the *City Press*. Our contemporary in a recent issue proposed that we should continue the "History of British Journalism," "which broke off at an eventful epoch of the Press" in these columns. It is only right that we should at once announce that we have no intention of continuing that work ourselves, partly because the matter is hardly ripe for permanent record—contemporary history being open to invidious influences and construction—and partly because we would prefer leaving it to younger and more competent hands. In fact, it was only at the request of Mr. Bentley that we entered upon the present century of journalistic history. But we have from the first hoped to make the NEWSPAPER PRESS in some sense supplementary to past and by all means auxiliary to future history. The records of the Press were so scattered, and we had to seek them out from such obscure and, in many instances, incongruous collections, that we feel a great help might be given to future historians by accumulating facts as they occur. If this idea be as warmly taken up and followed as it has been, we may

hope to leave to the coming chroniclers a pretty good store of materials, not only relating to British but also to foreign journalism, which may lay the foundation for a record of the Press history of the world or of every country where the newspaper sheet has unfolded itself. We invite contributions in aid of this design, and by adopting, in future, a smaller type in some of our departments hope to make room for them.

The want of space has hitherto been our chief embarrassment—we have never wanted matter; and to meet it we have not been niggard of occasional additional pages. We may not be too sanguine in indulging a hope of a permanent enlargement at no distant period; but our efforts have at present been directed to securing and properly remunerating the best literary talent in our especial sphere. Determined that our journal should never be a ricketty bantling, we first firmly "felt our feet," and now, with increasing confidence in our strength, we may, without risk, aim at a strong and vigorous maturity. Thanks then—many thanks to the kind and numerous friends who have enabled us gradually but steadily and safely to achieve this proud, because, we trust, useful, position. Thanks and good wishes, readers and friends, in whatever parts of the world these words may "come greeting!"

THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PRESS.

[It has been suggested that a series of descriptive sketches of the rank and file of the Press—the representative men of the newspaper world—would be acceptable even to newspaper men. A long life spent in the profession of journalism has shown us repeatedly that there is a strange ignorance about the usages of different establishments, or rather hazy ideas about the inhabitants of other sanctums, which a closer acquaintance and a more intimate knowledge would dispel. It is given but to few men to have a large acquaintance in the newspaper world, and hence the views of the broadest-minded journalists are somewhat contracted with regard to their own honourable vocation. The following sketches are from the pen of one of our contributors, who has spent a quarter of a century as one of the rank and file of journalists, and who is not unknown on the broad fields of general literature. Though the sketches are those of representative men, they are not to be considered as personal portraits, but rather as the generalised features of the journalistic race. The series will be continued during the ensuing year. They will begin with the proprietor and end with the "P. D."]

I. THE PROPRIETOR.

Newspaper proprietors may be fairly divided into three classes:

1. The simple owner.
2. The managing proprietor.
3. The literary proprietor.

Possibly these three classes may be again subdivided, but for all practical purposes this classification will remain untouched as representing the broad features of an influential body of men.

There are many owners of newspapers who have inherited the property from their predecessors, and who are content to receive the profits and leave the management in the hands of a paid manager. There are other owners of newspapers who have established or purchased journals, without any real hope of profit, but for the sake of the local importance or political influence which naturally attaches to the possession of an organ of public opinion. None of these varieties of the simple owner appear above the surface of newspaper life. Not so the managing or literary proprietors—they are the active soul of the newspaper, not the passive capital.

In this department of the rank and file of journalists, we can hardly enter into the consideration of the literary proprietor, because he merges his proprietorship into his editorship; but it is a fact that the most successful of both London and provincial newspapers have been established and conducted by editorial proprietors—men who are equally at home in penning an article, or in managing their property. Generally speaking, the literary

proprietor engages a manager who performs the business duties of the proprietor and attends to the details of the newspaper. That newspaper is on the high road to success which has two proprietors, one of whom acts as editor and the other as manager. Let us, however, glance at the managing proprietor, who, after all, is the proprietor *par excellence*.

Managing proprietors differ as widely as mankind in temper, disposition, and energy. One rises before us—and one of the first we knew—who will serve as our model. He was energetic and firm, yet suave. He arranged the details of the newspaper into four departments. The printing, which was placed under the control of the overseer or foreman. The editorial was left, as usual, under the sole charge of the editor. The reporting staff were subordinate to their chief, who was responsible to the editor and acted as sub. The advertising department was amalgamated with the book-keeping and business section, of which the proprietor had the supervision. Never was there an establishment which worked more harmoniously together. At nine o'clock each morning the editor met the proprietor, received his letters, ascertained from the chief reporter what amount of copy of importance the reporting staff were likely to supply. In the meantime, the proprietor read his letters, answered them, cut out a few advertisements that seemed likely to be sent if applied for, passed them to the clerk. Then came the consideration of the stock of paper, ink, and other details, which required looking after in advance. Bills of contents were then somewhat of a novelty, but when any important event was about to come off then the fact was duly announced that a full report and important particulars would appear in the *Blankshire Herald and Guardian*. Backward subscribers had to be looked up; overdue accounts to be placed in the collector's hands; and then came the inevitable deputations which were sometimes handed over to the editor, or seen by the manager. In this office, the editor had the general appointment of correspondents and contributors, at regular fixed rates, and in all larger newspaper offices, the managing proprietor leaves these details and simply pays the bills when sent in to him at fixed period, generally monthly, but sometimes at shorter, and other at longer intervals, according to the rule laid down. The management of the machinery is a very important question, for even now, it is a source of perpetual worry, and in the early days of printing machines, something was always going wrong. Rollers would get out of condition. The inking apparatus, especially, was a frequent source of annoyance, and occasionally the compositors would threaten to strike, about some trumpery dispute, or one or two of them absent themselves when indulging in some freak. It required the exercise of some temper and firmness to reconcile all these diverse elements.

The position of the proprietor and publisher is now much modified. His legal liabilities are not much less, perhaps, but he is spared those missives from the stamp-office, complaining of the death of his sureties, or of the failure to deliver the copy required by the office, or directing his attention to some of the points of the old law. At the present time, the proprietor has only to register himself as a printer with the clerk of the peace, and this point is very important, though frequently overlooked. It only costs a shilling, and the notice is simply to the effect that he has types and a printing-press, which he intends to use for printing. Without this is done, the printer, it has been decided, has no *locus standi* as a creditor for work done, in the courts of law. With respect to his paper, he has only to register the title at Stationers' Hall, which will cost him five shillings to secure the right of publication and copyright in his title. With the exception of being bound to place his imprint at the foot of every copy of his paper, and to send a copy to the British Museum, he is as free to carry on his business as any tradesman in the United Kingdom.

Unfortunately, his liability is much greater than almost any other tradesman's, to come within the meshes of the law. Perhaps a spirit merchant or a pawnbroker is equally liable, but, in their cases, a little care will avoid the infringement of an Act of Parliament. The newspaper proprietor, on the other hand, is liable for all the libellous utterances of every public speaker, if he ventures to report them. Sometimes the libellous matter is so carefully hidden beneath a cloak of words, that the utmost care fails to detect them, and probably the first notice that the proprietor

receives of the oversight is a lawyer's letter, or, may be, a writ itself. There have been several actions brought against newspapers, where the libel has been placed in a seemingly innocent advertisement. Frequently, the writers in the correspondence column manage to put a sting in their comments, which results in a series of annoyances, if not in law costs.

There are few papers, in the country especially, where the proprietors can assume a position of entire independence, and can say with the American scribe:

"We do not belong to our patrons,
Our paper is wholly our own,
Whoever may like it may take it,
Who don't can just leave it alone."

People will threaten to stop their paper, and, what is worse, use their influence with public companies to withdraw their advertisements, in consequence of some offence given, and the proprietor frequently sees a valuable and important source of income imperilled, in consequence of the independent action of the paper. No doubt, in the long run, this reacts on the paper, and places it on a high standpoint in the public favour; but few proprietors, however, can set down quietly until the reaction takes place. This source of managerial troubles is confined principally to the smaller country papers, for the Government does not do now as of yore—withhold or give its advertisements as a punishment or as a reward to the newspaper. This ebullition of petty spite is confined to local boards of health and boards of guardians.

The newspaper proprietor is placed under a fresh disability, in consequence of the decision of the Chancellor, not to place any one connected with the proprietorship of a local newspaper on the commission of the peace. There are many newspaper proprietors who conscientiously abstain from taking part in the local government of the towns in which their papers are published, in order that they should be perfectly free and untrammelled to comment on the proceedings; but there are others, who regard their newspapers as the means by which they can rise to power and influence, and to this class the Chancellor's decision will necessarily be vexatious.

It is, perhaps, impossible to draw up any given rule to regulate the action of proprietors with respect to the journals under their care. Opinions will differ materially, and amongst new proprietors there is an undue tendency to meddle with every department. This is very injudicious, unless the *employés* are new and inexperienced; for a tried man, whether editor, reporter, or printer, feels a certain amount of responsibility resting on him when trusted, and that self-reliance can never be maintained when he finds his work interfered with, and he soon begins to look upon the interference as a mark of want of confidence.

The great qualification of a newspaper proprietor is business tact, and a sagacious view of events, so that he may be able to guide the vessel under his charge, as if it were a public trust as well as a private property; to steer clear of petty personal feelings, and view, if possible, all questions from a broad, if not a judicial, point of view. He has a position of power which he ought to see well exercised for the good of the community. B.

JAPAN "PUNCH" AND "JUDY."

As intimated in his letter (which we published in our November No.), Mr. Coates, of Sunderland, has forwarded to us a copy of the *Japan Punch* and of the *Japan Judy*. They are most unique publications, and, in every point of view, are real literary curiosities. The idea of comic publications at Yokohama is in itself rather a joke, and we can excuse the incredulity of one of our correspondents who had not had "ocular demonstration" of their existence—but the numerous illustrations, evidently by an European—probably French—artist, are most humorous, and quite different from any style we are accustomed to. Of course, much of the "point" is lost through their reference to local circumstances, of which we are uninformed, but which give rise to them; but the novelty of the style is quite refreshing to the eye and relaxing to the risible muscles. By the kind permission of Mr. Coates they will be at our office for the inspection of the curious during the current month, and may be seen on personal application to Mr. E. W. Allen, our publisher.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

XIII.—REPORTS OF PROCEEDINGS IN COURTS OF JUSTICE.

Among the modern cases relating to the right of the Press, and of individuals, to publish reports of proceedings in a Court of Justice, is that of *Salmon v. Isaac*, in the Court of Queen's Bench, tried at the Guildhall, London, before Mr. Justice Hannen, on the 7th July last, when the learned judge propounded the following important dictum:—That although the publication of a fair report of proceedings in a court of justice containing defamatory matter is privileged, yet, if it be shown by evidence that the person who published, or caused such report to be published, did so with the object of injuring the character or credit of another, the publication is not protected by law, and the party complaining is entitled to compensation in damages.

The plaintiff in this case was a manure manufacturer and dealer, carrying on business at Bermondsey. The publication complained of imputed to him that he carried on his business fraudulently, and sold manure of an inferior and worthless quality. The defendant, besides the general plea of "not guilty," pleaded specially, as a justification for publishing the defamatory matter in question, that prior to such publication, the plaintiff had sued two persons in the Ashford County Court, to recover the price of manure sold by him, and that the alleged libel "was a true, fair, just, accurate, and correct account and report of the trials of the two actions, and was published by the defendant *bonâ fide* and without malice." It appeared in evidence, on these trials, in the County Court, that the libel, which consisted of an abridged report of the proceedings, had been extensively distributed, in the form of a circular or handbill, at the head of which were the words:—"Take notice. Important to Farmers. From the *Mark Lane Express*." This handbill was circulated, on market days, in Surrey and Kent and the adjoining counties, and its publication was, in two instances, brought home to the defendant. With the exception of the heading, the matter complained of was copied from the *Mark Lane Express*, being a report of the two trials in the Ashford County Court, condensed from a report in the *Kentish Express*. The condensed report was substantially accurate, save that one of the defendants, instead of stating, as reported, that he had had the plaintiff's guano analysed, and found it was "nothing but sand, sawdust, and other worthless compounds," had merely said, "the stuff he sent me appears to be a little sand and sawdust." This report was copied into a large number of county and local journals. It was proved, on the trial of this action for libel, by the plaintiff and his traveller, that since the publication of these handbills, there had been a great falling off in the plaintiff's business. It further appeared that the defendant, who resided at Reading, was a rival dealer, in the same line of business with the plaintiff.

After proof of these facts it was submitted, on the part of the defendant, that the alleged libel being, in fact, a substantially correct report of trials in a court of justice was privileged. But Mr. Justice Hannen said that the circumstances proved were such as to raise the question for the jury, whether there was not evidence of express malice, in which case the publication would not be protected. The learned judge added some remarks which, as being important to journalists, we give verbatim. He said the law of privilege stands thus: As a general rule, the law presumes that anyone who publishes statements in their nature calculated to inflict injury upon the reputation of another, intends to do that mischief which naturally results from his act; in other words, from the mere fact of publication of defamatory matter malice is usually implied. But this is not always the case. There are certain occasions on which he who publishes defamatory statements may have acted, and presumably did act, from a sense of duty, or from a legitimate desire to promote his own interests, or those of the public, without any desire to inflict injury on his neighbour, such injury not being the end in view in making the publication, although it incidentally resulted from it. Such occasions are termed privileged. If, for instance, one of you is desirous of employing a servant, and goes to a former master of that servant to ask for his character, such former master will be

privileged in telling you what he knows or honestly believes about the servant's character, although the statements so made by him may be injurious to the servant's reputation. But a privileged occasion may be abused. The motives of him who makes defamatory statements, on such an occasion, are *primâ facie* innocent, but it is always open to the injured party to show, by evidence, that they were not so in reality. In other words, express malice may be proved, and privilege then affords no protection. To apply these remarks to the present case. It is for the public interest that facilities should be afforded to the public for acquainting itself with the details of the administration of the law. Accordingly, anyone is at liberty to publish a fair report of proceedings in a court of justice, although such report may contain matter damaging the character of individuals. A newspaper has no greater privilege in such a matter than any ordinary person—any person is privileged in publishing such a report if he does so merely to inform the public. But if you can infer from the circumstances attending the publication that it was really made not with a view to the information of the public, but for the purpose of injuring some individual, the publisher will be liable in damages to the person whose character he has injured. Suppose that the editor of a newspaper, not satisfied with reporting, on the morning after the trial, a case containing matter defamatory of some person's character, were to continue inserting such report, day after day, and week after week, would that not be strong evidence to show that he was actuated by some feeling of ill-will to the person whose character such report was calculated to injure? Although the report be a correct one, he who makes it may be actuated by a malicious motive. The learned judge, after these general remarks, directed the attention of the jury to the facts as proved in this case, and then left to them two questions—first, whether the publication was *bonâ fide* and without express malice; secondly, whether the publication complained of was calculated to injure the plaintiff in the way of his trade, and generally to affect his character and credit. The jury, deciding the first of these questions in the negative, and the other in the affirmative, found a verdict for the plaintiff, with damages £287.

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

XIII.—THE MANCHESTER GUARDIAN.

NEARLY half a century has elapsed since the *Manchester Guardian* made its mark on the shrewd hard-headed Manchester men. It early took a foremost place amongst provincial journals, and thus afforded another instance of the special force of one individual, when that individual combined the business and the literary talent. The late Mr. Taylor was like the late Egerton Smith of the *Liverpool Mercury*, and the renowned Walter of the *Times*—he possessed great native shrewdness and no little independence of character, which enabled him to make the *Manchester Guardian* the "*Times* of the North." In this he was assisted later by Mr. Jeremiah Garnett, who still survives. The great fact in its history was the defence to the action for libel in 1836, when the proprietors took the bold course of justifying some remarks it had made on the *bonâ fide* character of some mercantile transactions which had taken place. This course was not only successful, but placed the journal on a proud pedestal. One of its bitterest opponents always spoke of it with respect, for however much it might differ from the speaker, it always reported what its opponents said fearlessly and correctly. On its early literary staff we find the late John Harland, F.S.A., whose death we recorded a few months back. His abilities as a reporter did much to raise the character of the *Guardian*, and procured for him a share in the proprietorship. In later years, the *Manchester Guardian* has shown that it has lost nothing of its fearless independence. Its conduct in reference to the libel case of *Behren v. Taylor* and others is yet vividly remembered in the neighbourhood of Manchester Exchange. The *Guardian* pointed out the questionable conduct of a large firm with reference to the purchase of a quantity of goods from a bankrupt, and though the jury cast the paper in heavy damages, the Manchester merchants offered to pay the whole. On this offer being declined, they presented the proprietors with a thousand guineas as a mark of their high appreciation of the newspaper's conduct in exposing a breach of mercantile fair

dealing. When the compulsory newspaper stamp was abolished, the *Manchester Guardian* became a daily paper at twopence, and allowed its contemporary the *Examiner and Times* to monopolise the field for nearly three years as a penny paper; but when the proprietors found that the world would have penny papers, they supplied the demand in such a manner that speedily regained for it that supremacy which at one time seemed gone from it for ever. During the whole of this cloudy time, the advertising world kept their faith in the *Guardian*, and now it is unequalled as an advertising medium in the North. The style of the paper is somewhat solid and heavy. It is reliable, if not brilliant in style, and great weight is attached to its opinion on all mercantile subjects. Mr. J. H. Taylor, son of the original proprietor, and Mr. Peter Allen, his son-in-law, are the principal acting proprietors—Mr. Tom Taylor being the editor, and Mr. Allen the publisher. Mr. Tom Taylor, the well-known dramatist, is the London correspondent.

THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

On the first of next January, or, at latest, a week or two thereafter, the telegraph system of the country will pass into the hands of the Government; and, simultaneously with this change, an entirely new machinery will be brought into operation for the supply of telegraphic and other news to the Press of the United Kingdom. It has long been felt as a grievance, especially by the leading provincial journals, that the newspapers of the country should be dependent for their supplies of "latest news" upon what may be best described as amateur effort. The telegraphic companies, it is true, have had an "intelligence department," and, for people not brought up to the business, they have done their work fairly. But it has all along been felt that if newspaper men were engaged upon the collection and preparation of this kind of news, instead of telegraph clerks, the supplies would be far more manageable and useful. The larger dailies, indeed, have gone the length of supplementing the companies' work by establishing special agencies of their own in London, and renting special wires—at an annual expense, be it noted, of something between £1,000 and £1,500 a year. Nor are there many first-class weeklies that have not found it necessary to appoint a London correspondent to supply the omissions which their latest news columns would otherwise show.

It may be asked why should the great newspaper proprietors, with all the wealth they have at their backs, have suffered this system to continue? The answer is simple. So long as the companies had the wires in their own hands, so long were they able to charge rates for transmission which would forbid any association of newspaper proprietors competing with them. But no sooner was it whispered abroad that the Government was likely to take up the telegraph system of the country than a meeting of newspaper proprietors was convened at Manchester for the purpose of devising some scheme whereby the existing state of things might be put an end to, and a new and efficient machinery brought into operation. This meeting led to others, both in the north of England and in London; and the result is the Press Association—a "limited company" formed exclusively of newspaper proprietors, and based upon the principle of co-operation, for the supply of telegraphic and other news throughout the three kingdoms. Though based, as we have said, upon the co-operative principle, however, the Association does not decline to supply non-members with its news. On the contrary, it undertakes, as some think, against its own interests, to supply telegraphic intelligence to news-rooms, clubs, and private subscribers. It pays no dividends. All profits that accrue are to go in the formation of a reserve fund for increasing the business, and in an annual reduction of the tariff.

This tariff, just issued, lies before us as we write; and on the face of it shows the magnitude of the work which the Press Association has undertaken. As the document is marked "Confidential, for newspapers only," we do not feel at liberty to transfer its figures to our columns; nor is there any necessity for this, if, as we are informed, a copy of it has been forwarded to every newspaper proprietor in the country. At the same time, a few facts which we have gleaned respecting the proposed work of the Association and the principles upon which it has based its scale of charges, may not, at this juncture be uninteresting to our readers,

especially as they have the tariff before them and can compare notes for themselves.

The revenue derived from their "Intelligence Departments" by the moribund telegraph companies we believe is something like £30,000 annually. The Press Association proposes to do all the work represented by this sum, and more. They know the wants of the newspaper world better than the companies possibly can; and they are aware that hundreds of weekly papers up and down the country have been unable to obtain a weekly supply of telegraphic news at once fitted to their wants and their pockets. We say "hundreds" advisedly, for at present, we believe, the tri-weekly, bi-weekly, and weekly papers, English, Scotch, Irish, and Welsh, taking telegraphic news, do not number much over one hundred; while their total number is nearer a thousand. The reason they have not taken this news is that they could not be supplied for a less sum than £30 or £40 per annum, while, in many cases, the annual charge reached £80, £90, and even £100. The Press Association, on the contrary, are prepared to supply weekly papers with a fair selection of Reuter's telegrams, with a summary of the Parliamentary news of the night they go to press, with a summary of general news, and with one or two market reports, for something over £10 per annum, or four shillings a week! In this way the Association hopes to increase its constituency, and so lessen its rates. Nor does it confine itself to furnishing what may be called the ordinary telegraphic news of the country. It proposes to become a great reporting agency, supplying London with special news from the country, and the country not only with special news from London, but with special news from one town to another. If a country paper, for instance, requires a special report of a law case, or of a Parliamentary debate, or of a deputation to ministers, of no interest but to its own circle of readers, all it has to do is to send a commission to the Association, who will get it done and send it, either by telegraph or by railway parcel to the person ordering it, and to no other. In the same way, if the Hereford, or the Scotch, or the Devonshire papers require a report of the Birmingham Cattle Show, the Association will do it. It will have duly accredited agents in all parts of the kingdom, upon whom it can depend for all such work as this, as well as for its ordinary telegraphic business.

Its tariff, however, relates exclusively to the work which will devolve upon it by the lapse of the existing telegraph companies. And in preparing for that work it has had difficulties of no ordinary kind to encounter. It has to provide agents in all parts of the country, to buy, at a high rate of payment, every word those agents send it, and to pay a fixed sum for every word forwarded to it, or by it, forwarded to its customers. Furthermore, it has had to take large central offices in the newspaper centre of London, to engage city offices, to buy the exclusive right to supply Reuter's telegrams, and to appoint large editorial, parliamentary, city, sporting, and reporting staffs. And, after all, it is expected to furnish the public with at least as good an article, at almost the same price, as has been supplied by companies who were able to collect their news at a nominal cost through their own clerks, and telegraph it through their own wires in the intervals during which those wires would otherwise have been idle. This was one difficulty. There was another quite as serious. The companies have had no uniform scale of charges. There is a system of hand-capping. One Exchange, which we could name, pays £400 for almost precisely the same news as another Exchange receives for £100. The papers published in an English town that we could name pay £200 a year for less news than the papers in a certain Irish town receive for £150 a year. The Association, on the other hand, if they were to do business on any fair and permanent principle at all, were compelled to draw up a tariff which should be uniform. To fix that tariff at the higher rate of charges was out of the question; to fix it at the lower would not pay; while to strike an average would be to irritate the more favoured papers under the old system, and not more than satisfy the less favoured ones.

Both the difficulties we have pointed out seem to have been, to a large extent, obviated by basing the tariff upon an entirely different principle to that upon which the telegraph companies have proceeded. Their plan was to fix a lump sum per annum for a roughly described supply of news, which the customer must take as it came, whether he wanted it or not. The plan adopted

by the Association is to fix a sum per annum for each kind of news it supplies, leaving the customer to cut his coat according to his cloth by taking only those kinds which he wants, and no more. Instead of saying "we will supply you with Reuter's, markets, monetary, sporting, and general news at so much a year," the Association says, "We will supply you with Reuter's at so much, with markets at so much, with monetary at so much, with sporting at so much, and with general news at so much; and you may take which you please, or all together." It does more. It sub-edits its news into classes. It supplies Reuter's news entire; it supplies a summary amounting to one-half of the whole, and a shorter summary amounting to one-quarter of the whole. It supplies long and short Parliamentary news, and three different classes of general news. So that a paper which does not want, or cannot afford to pay, for long news, may take short news. In the same manner, a paper which issues second editions may have the news supplied for use in those editions by paying for it, while a paper which issues no second editions, neither has the news nor pays for it. In this way the Association meets the case of higher or lower annual payments, while preserving a uniform tariff. It also provides for wants not hitherto met by furnishing a more copious supply of general news three times a day; by furnishing a midday supply of general news for evening papers and third editions of morning papers; and by providing a London city letter of about two-thirds of a column daily. Also, the tariff sets forth the charges in each class for tri-weekly, bi-weekly, and weekly papers. And so strict are the calculations upon which this tariff is based, that whoever receives the same class of news, be he the proprietor of a morning, an evening, a tri-weekly, a bi-weekly, or a weekly paper, he pays for it precisely the same sum per word. There is no handicapping—no favouritism. Every man pays for the news he has, and no more. Least of all does one man pay, as has been the custom, part of the price of another's man's supply.

Such are the outlines of an undertaking which we cannot but look upon as sounding the first note of a revolution in the methods by which newspapers have hitherto been supplied with news of events happening out of their own districts. As a sign of the recognition and support it is receiving we may mention that Reuter's Telegram Company have sold the Association the sole right of supplying their telegrams everywhere in the United Kingdom, excepting in London; that the Parliamentary authorities have granted it special seats in the gallery for its Parliamentary staff, as if it were a London morning newspaper; and that all the leading provincial journals of the country are numbered among its members. Thus supported, no opposition scheme is for the present possible, nor is any on the tapis; and if the Association only does its work as well as it promises to do it, we confidently believe that no opposition scheme will be needed.

THE MORAL AND RELIGIOUS INFLUENCE OF THE PRESS IN THE PRESENT DAY.

[Being a paper read before the Church Conference at Hull, by Mr. Hunt, of the *Eastern Morning News*, on October 22nd.]

In an assembly met to discuss matters affecting the welfare of the Church, it would be a serious omission to forget the influence of the newspaper Press. Every one knows how powerful the fourth estate has become. There is little need of figures to prove the vastly increased importance of journalism now as compared with fifty years ago. The increase of newspapers has been far more than proportionate to the increase of population. Every small town has its paper, often more; and the circulation of one London journal now is greater than that which all the papers put together had half a century back. It is impossible but that this great power must influence the religious thought of the country. Though the great majority of our newspapers are avowedly devoted to secular subjects, they constantly have to deal with those that are not secular. In a country where there is an Established Church, the connection between politics and religion is so close that political newspapers cannot help treating of religious topics from time to time. Were the English Church disestablished tomorrow there would still be abundant room for journalists to discuss matters more or less affecting the religious life of the nation. In fact, if we distinguish between religious and ecclesiastical,

and (while confining the second term to questions of doctrine and discipline) apply the first much more widely, and include in it all that Saint James included in it, we shall find it impossible to separate politics from religion. I do not mean merely when such questions as the disestablishment of the Irish Church, or the extension of the English episcopate, are concerned. I mean also questions commonly supposed to be purely political. Let me give a few instances. Free trade is one. I have always lamented that the clergy did not use their influence in this matter on behalf of that change, which, duly reciprocated, all parties now admit to be right. The clergy might have greatly strengthened their position if with regard to this question they had pointed out that the few ought not to benefit at the expense of the many; that the labourer ought not to pay high for his bread in order that the landlord and the farmer might grow rich. Similarly with regard to factory legislation, the clergy lost another opportunity of showing that it was the duty of the State to protect the needy many against the avaricious few. Then again take a question which has yet to be legislated upon—the homes of the working classes. Why do not the clergy come forward and point out the grievous wrong that is done by giving a landlord heavy compensation, not only for his land, but for spoiling his view when a railway is made, while nothing is given to the working man for turning him out of his lodging, and compelling him to take another at a higher rent in an unhealthy situation? Then there is the temperance question. This, too, has, with a few exceptions, been left unnoticed by the clergy, though I am most glad to recognise the active part which has been taken by his Grace, our diocesan, and the president of this Conference. A Roman Catholic archbishop and some eminent Dissenting ministers have come to the front in this great reform, but, in the main, the English clergy appear to look upon it with coldness and indifference. Then, too, there is the deep-rooted dishonesty found among all classes. Among the wealthy financiers who get up sham companies and rob the public, and among the small shopkeepers who use short weights and also rob the public, and especially the poor. Lastly (though I could mention many other points in which religion and politics are inseparably connected), there is the grievous sin of bribery, which recent disclosures—and unhappily only a few miles from here—have shown to infect both high and low, and to have corrupted the whole body politic. Now, on all these questions the clergy might speak out, and to good purpose, and would effect infinitely more benefit than they do by their perpetual and most wearisome enunciation of dogmas and platitudes. But one of the consequences of their "shutting themselves up in a theological circle," as the Archbishop happily put it the other day at Liverpool, is they do not speak out, and the result is that the work has to be done by journalists. They think perhaps that in touching on these topics they are meddling with matters beneath the notice of a minister of God, forgetting that much more minute and unimportant matters than these were ordained by God himself in the great theocracy which existed in Palestine for so many centuries. The result is that the pulpit has had to give way to the Press—that it is the second, not the first, which is now the more influential and the most heeded teacher of the people. This being so, I have to speak of the duties of journalists in carrying out the work which has devolved upon them. These, if they are fully alive to their high calling, will speak fearlessly and honestly; will not screen the offender because he belongs to their political party; will point out the absolute necessity of improvement if the nation is to stand and prosper; will argue that the first principle of all statesmanship is the golden rule of doing to others as you would be done by. On the whole I believe secular journalism is doing its duty better in this respect than it has done at any former time. There is less of partisanship than there was. There are more journals than there were which are independent, and which do not hesitate to rebuke the errors of either party, and (this is very satisfactory) they are the most successful journals. The public does on the whole, and in spite of all its faults, love a "faithful" journalism, just as it does "faithful" preaching. But here my commendation must end. There are journals as there are men without the fear of God before them; whose influence is neither in favour of morality nor religion, and even in some higher-class journals, it must be admitted, many things appear, which in the interests of morals and religion ought to be excluded. Many

of the reports of police court cases, of divorce cases and the like, although interesting reading to some, are neither improving nor profitable in the best sense. In spite of these drawbacks, however, I contend that, in the main, British newspapers are faithfully conducted, and exercise a beneficial effect on the morals and religion of the country. If secular or political journalism is less partisan than it was, religious journalism was never so partisan as it is. Remembering that the chief of the Christian graces, that the very foundation of religion, is charity, it is difficult to understand what of religion there is in the so-called religious journals. They seem to concentrate all the "malice," and all the "uncharitableness," from which we pray in the Litany to be defended. I do not hesitate to say that, if all the religious journals in the kingdom (except perhaps the *Guardian* and the *John Bull*) were extinguished to-morrow, both the church and the world would be greatly the better. It is for secular journalists to take warning by the frightful example of their religious colleagues, remembering that, as Coleridge says, "He who begins by loving Christianity better than truth will proceed by loving his own sect or church better than Christianity, and end by loving himself better than all."

His Grace the Archbishop of York, as President of the Conference, referring to Mr. Hunt's paper, said he did think that Mr. Hunt, who knew the matter very well, spoke a great truth when he said that secular papers were conducted on higher principles than some of the religious papers. There was no question about this—that a man might take up a paper like the *Times*, and although he might happen to differ from that paper in all he uttered in public, he would never find from one end to the other that paper impute improper motives or indulge in personalities. It was not so with some of the so-called religious papers. It would be much better if there were more religious papers in which the spirit of true religion pervaded their columns, and which, instead of sundering men, and stirring up weekly or daily strife, should strive to bring them together, and seek to show their objects in common, than magnify the points of difference. (Applause.)

EUGENE DE FORCADE.

(From the *Standard*.)

No history of the world can ever again be written to which his firm and impartial pen will not have contributed. The *Revue des Deux Mondes*—the best periodical, beyond question, in all Europe—was furnished by him with its contemporary annals. Never a word of spite, never a word of prejudice appeared, in his name, in those impartial columns. Eugene de Forcade was the model of a Parisian journalist, and that of the highest type. We think it a task of duty to honour his name. For French journalism is open to many and to some mean temptations. It is fruitful of adventurous popularity, it permits the escape of much explosive opinion, it lends itself to exuberant vanity; but Eugene de Forcade resisted the solicitude of the ungoverned populace. Comparisons are frequently drawn between the status of a journalist in England and the status of a journalist in France. We prefer not to discuss them. There is no such term as *ceteris paribus* applicable in their case. Yet it is undeniable that, in Paris, a journalist of honest and consistent opinion wins honour from his contemporaries, and wears a crown which may not be recognised until it is laid upon his tomb, after death. Newspaper life, however, in Paris, is a hot and wearing experience. Forcade, as a banker's clerk, enjoyed more repose than ever he did when plunged into politics, after the sensation produced by his earliest essay on "The Right of Search at Sea." His name deserves honour. Imprisoned for his opinions, he refused to forsake them; damaged in fortune, on account of the same cause, he would not yield his liberty of mind; but again and again he told his coadjutors, while not despairing of liberty for France, never to refuse an opportunity, come from what quarter it might. French politicians, as candidates or as members of the Legislature, are less important just now than the representatives of the French Press, consequently, in Eugene de Forcade, a great loss is felt. He was a man who loved, while criticising, his country's literature; he loved, and yet satirised, the manners of England. Possibly, he might have employed his genius upon a more fruitful task, but this much at least is true, he had disregarded

the warnings of nature, and had worked himself into a state of incapacity. In many a brilliant circle, from many a sparkling volume, will be missed the potent and flowing pen of Eugene de Forcade. All literature regrets his early death.

SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR JOURNALISM.

(From the *Anglo-American Times*.)

But the interesting question relating to journalists regards their education. The *Nation* holds the idea that a man needs to be specially prepared at college to be nearly as erroneous as the idea that he can be prepared for his work in a newspaper office. Special education, it argues, is required by men whose calling forces them to deal with a certain class of facts. A journalist's business is to reason on all the facts of life, and of every class, or to know others who can. There is no recipe that will enable a man to do this. Good natural powers, strengthened by general cultivation, will, but nothing else. The more a man knows everything, and the better he can make deductions from what he knows, the better journalist he will be, if he possesses also the art of expressing himself in a taking way, as well as the orator's power of perceiving when he has said as much on any one theme as his audience will stand. The journalist's art lies in the expression, which is or ought to be taught to everybody, being neither more nor less than saying clearly and attractively what you have to say in as few words as possible. The rules which help to make a man perspicuous and concise are taught in all colleges, and enable anybody to speak and write better, but cannot enable any to speak and write well in default of natural ability. The science of journalism includes all sciences, inasmuch as it undertakes no less than to help the public at large to think correctly on every subject of human interest. Hence the *Nation's* conclusion, that a Special Chair of Journalism is an absurdity; for what it can do is already in operation, and it is impotent to do more.

THE INFANCY OF JOURNALISM.

(From the *Advertiser's Gazette*.)

A NOTICEABLE feature of most of the weekly literary journals, and which many of the prominent weekly newspapers are adopting, are the "notices to correspondents," generally made up with a tact and skill which render them very attractive, and they are really of use to the general public, giving as they do much that is new, useful, and strange in the departments of agriculture, mechanics, and the science of housekeeping. Whole chapters are condensed into the few lines that constitute the answers which make up the body of the "notices," for here brevity with conciseness is the main point to be attained.

Now as this department is to most of the journals of the present day, there is evidence that the earlier papers perceived its value, for in an old News Letter of 1620 is the following:—

"NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—All persons who are pleased to favour us with comical or solid stories may repair to the 'Three Kings,' Ludgate, and they shall have them carefully put in."

"READER.—I cannot lett thee have the letters for roome untill next weeke."

And in the *Gazette*, printed at London, of a little later date, are these among others less singular:—

"Whereas, there is notice given in the *Gazette* that one Mr. Fox has been scandalised in this paper, this is to certify that there was never any such relation printed in any intelligence published by us, but by some others that counterfeited our title. We are resolved to be so very careful and cautious as to endeavour not to give the least offence upon any account to any person whatsoever.

"It was a mistake in our last that Lord Arniston was dead, occasioned by the rendezvous of coaches hard by his Lordship's lodging that were to attend the funeral of the Right Honourable the Earl of Galloway; whereof his Lordship's pardon and that of his family is humbly craved."

Such a notice as the above sounds oddly enough, but in the early days of journalism there was no adequate system of home reporting. It seems to have been mainly by private and arbitrary means that a domestic or local news paragraph came to the office. The journals of the world were a mere handful. The editions were very small and printed to further some private purpose aside

from the giving of news, and these were mainly in London. There was not a paper north of Edinburgh until 1746; there was not one established on a permanent basis in Edinburgh until 1718. News was in those days sent about in private letters and in gossip of conversation. The wandering beggar, who came to the farmer's house craving supper and bed, was the principal intelligencer of the rural population. In Queen Anne's time, to receive a regular newsletter or sheet from the metropolis was the privilege of lords, squires, and men of official importance. At a still earlier time this communication was not a printed sheet at all, but a written one prepared in London, copied by some process or by hand, and so circulated from some recognised centre.

THE NEW "GAZETTEER."

(From the *Standard*.)

MR. GLADSTONE has at least made one appointment at which no one will cavil. The selection of Mr. Thomas Walker, officially announced in the last *Gazette*, for the editorship of that paper, is so singular an instance of the right man being put into the right place that we hasten to offer our congratulations alike to the Premier and to the recipient of his patronage. The appointment is the more to be commended, because the post which Mr. Walker fills is one of the very few prizes left which may be said properly to belong to that class of men who take to journalism as their sole and exclusive profession, and because there must have been a host of applicants for a position which possesses the double advantage of excellent pay and tolerably easy work. The public has become somewhat accustomed of late years to see every lucrative berth swallowed up by the sons, or sons-in-law, or nephews of Cabinet or Ex-Cabinet Ministers; and it is to Mr. Gladstone's credit that he has had the courage to bestow this valuable piece of patronage in the proper quarter, and the good taste, somewhat rare nowadays in eminent public men, to acknowledge the debt of gratitude due by party leaders to services honourably and independently rendered by the Press. Without ascribing to Mr. Walker a monopoly of every editorial virtue, so far as the side of Liberalism is concerned, we are glad to add our tribute of respect to his conduct of the journal with which he has been so long and honourably connected.

FINANCIAL JOURNALS.

(From the *Anglo-American Times*.)

Among the articles in a number of the New York *Nation*, is one especially noticeable on "Financial Advertisements." Its object is to show that the public should attach no importance whatever to the commendation of any newspaper regarding any scheme which asks for their money; but, on the contrary, that they should view the favourable remarks with suspicion if they see a long advertisement accompanying the recommendation. By way of illustration, we tell our readers the following little story which occurred to a man whom his friends considered to be far from wanting in capacity. He was an officer of the British Army, and had spent the greater portion of his life abroad, where, in the unhealthy climates of India and China, he had saved a little money, which, with the sale of his commission, he considered ample for his future support. Before taking the irretrievable step of retiring he desired to acquaint himself with the best investments and the interest he might reasonably expect from his capital. To aid him in these researches he took in a weekly London paper devoted to the money market and joint-stock enterprise, and soon became absorbed in this guide. The delightful visions of wealth which there flitted before his eyes quickly removed all doubt; his difficulty was an *embarras de richesses*, he was like a boy in a confectioner's shop. "Scatter," said his Mentor, "don't put all your eggs into one basket; vary your investment both in country and in character." The sword of this officer was not only turned into pruning hooks, but into the implements which cultivate tea, which build ships, into financial enterprises, manufacturing, mining, banking, and having got his money well spread over the world and into undertakings about which he could not possibly know anything beyond what the authority he followed had demonstrated,

that they all not only had paid, but would continue to pay admirably, he awaited the returns with much complacency and self-congratulation. The result turned out to be a pretty thing, for he had not merely purchased worthless securities, but heavy liabilities; not only was all his means swept away, but huge debts remained to liquidate in uncalled capital, and to his surprise the Mentor he had so implicitly followed turned round to abuse most heartily the very undertakings it had before so lauded, whose meetings it had so fully reported, and favourably commented upon in leading articles. This officer was in the country during the beginning of 1866, and the City articles of the *Times* so alarmed him that he would have hastened to town to clear out of all the Rubbish he held, which he then began to suspect, but week after week his fears were allayed by the soothing assurances of his "weekly." The public was mad; men were sacrificing without reason their property; now was the time to invest, and this rubbish was the right thing to buy; and some influential dailies in London strengthened this delusion, so the officer held on, and we all know how that ended. He was ruined, because he was so blinded as not to see that the editor of the financial newspaper did not know as much about the investments he thus lavishly praised as did the officer himself; that the information of the paper was derived from the very companies it lauded, that information being accompanied by no small fees in payment of advertisements and the purchase and distribution of copies of the paper; in short, that it was the mere tool of Joint-Stock Companies, just as Financial Companies were of contractors—the means by which they gathered the money of a gullible public. It would have been much better for the officer had he gone direct to the Secretary of any Company in whose shares he invested, although that is the next worst source of information. It is curious reading to look over files of the year 1865 of such financial journals as that to which we allude, with their unhesitating recommendation of investments which in less than twelve months appeared in their true characters of iniquitous swindles, and to see these same journals now moralising on the rascality, and men still putting faith in what they say. There was a time when newspapers were supported by purchasers of the copies; now the main support is from advertising, and the change is by no means beneficial to the Press, although the advantages to persons of small means are considerable. It was in America that the system of cheap papers was inaugurated, and it is in America where the worst influences of the change are felt. The *Nation* says that few persons have any idea of the insidious influence over the Press acquired by means of financial advertising. Certain journals devoted to financial and business specialities of a low class form the ground work of the fabric to be reared, and in them appear the first advertisements of the new enterprise. The publisher agrees with the advertiser for a whole column of advertising per week, and a half a column of editorial notice, to be furnished by the advertiser. If what the advertiser states editorially is contradicted by correspondents their letters are not published; if by other journals, their venality and corruption can be exposed in another editorial. The advertiser does not expect the glowing accounts to be read in the obscure journals wherein he commences operations, but they are not published to be read, but to be quoted. The next step the advertiser takes is to the office of a respectable but struggling daily or weekly, and his bargain there stipulates that the paper will occasionally copy and insert semi-editorial extracts from other papers in relation to the new company which will be kindly furnished by the advertiser himself. Thus an outrageous puff comes to be inserted from the obscure journal, the editor soothing his conscience with the reflection that every reader must see that the paragraph is only an extract. But every reader does not see this, and in the minds of some it may remain associated with the credit due to the paper in which they saw it. However, these are only the first steps designed to pave the way to the offices of the leading journals of the great cities.

It has been semi-officially announced that the Government will bring in a Bill next session for carrying books and all other literary matter up to 2 oz. for a halfpenny. Also that our Government has applied to the Government of the United States to reduce the postage of letters between England and the States to 3d. per ½ oz.

from seven unions invited to nominate, and five nominations have been confirmed. The other scholarships will be speedily filled. We would be very glad to receive suggestions for the improvement and extension of this plan. The College extends a long credit of from two to six years after graduation to meritorious young men."

An enterprising "interviewer" of the *Sun* details a conversation which he held with Professor Johnston on the subject:—

"I began about the free scholarships that the college intended giving to candidates nominated by the typographical unions of the country.

"He asked me if I was a correspondent for a Northern paper. I told him I was; I came from the New York *Sun*. He then spoke to this effect:—

"The number of these scholarships will be limited for the present to twenty-five. We think it enough, when we compare the resources of our institution with those of the northern colleges, such, for instance, as Harvard, Yale, and Columbia. The reason we propose giving these scholarships is this, that printing is one of the arts which diffuse education, and we should therefore seek to qualify printers for the task of educating as far as possible. These scholarships will probably be given only to Southern Unions, because we need them more here than you in the North. We had proposed to issue half of these scholarships to men aiming for the journalistic profession, but have become rather abashed at the torrent of ridicule poured upon us by some of the papers of the country. Now, what we intend is not to make journalists, to make men fit at once for the editorial chair. No. But we wish to give young men as good an education as possible, in order that afterward, having acquired their journalistic training in a newspaper office, they may make far better and more cultivated editors."

I send you the "Galaxy" for last month, thinking you might like to see the article it contains on "The Morals and Manners of Journalism," by Richard Grant White. By the way, "Shirley Dare" has written to the *Tribune* a different version of the foundation of the *Imperialist* newspaper to that given by the "Galaxy." He says they were three young men, tolerably known in New York newspaper offices. Two were Americans, and renegade Republicans. One had gone so far as to carry torches in Union League processions, and talk patriotism fiercely at the kerbstone, and attempted to enlist in the war, but the protestations of his friends, especially his lady friends, held his loyal ardour in check. During the last campaign he occupied his fertile pen with writing editorials alternately for Grant and Seymour, with a possible consulate in view, which he fondly hoped to secure by his disinterested labours, whichever side might win. The list of consulates was filled, but his name was not on it, and the death of hope from a Republican Government left him an ardent Imperialist. The second is an Englishman, who has the best claim to sincerity of belief of any one of the triumvirate. His position at the time was a subordinate one in the freight business. He, however, is the only one of the three who deserves in the least the distinction of culture. The others are graduates of fresh-water colleges, with a post graduate course of bad French novels, and provincial Italian. The third is the working editor of a small financial paper, a very young man—so young that it is difficult to characterize him further. All three were Bohemians of Bohemia, in the eminent degrees of debt and discontent. The promising idea that a paper could force its way to notorious success by the "undraped" odiousness of its principles was suggested to the first of these men after an apprenticeship on Pomeroy's *Democrat*. The Imperialist organ is, however, as dead as a door nail, and there is no necessity to pursue the subject further.

The Washington *Intelligencer*, which was suspended after a run of nearly seventy years, has been revived in the Democratic interest. It has gone into the hands of Mr. Alexander Delmar, a gentleman who has had much experience at the Press, and who is fully competent for the duties of his place. He has long been connected with journalism, more especially on papers of a statistical or scientific character, such as *Hunt's Merchants' Magazine*, the *Social Science Review*, and others; but of late he has been brought most prominently before the public as Director of the Bureau of Statistics at Washington.

Pfirfaith's Newspaper Folding-Machine is highly spoken of and extensively employed in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston, Cleveland, Cincinnati, &c., where it is used in the principal printing offices, sometimes as many as four being found in the same office. It is said to fold from 2,600 to 8,000 sheets per hour, with the aid of only one workman. The cost varies, according to size, from 600 to 1,050 dollars.—*Stationer*.

Of libel suits against newspapers, the New York *Tribune* remarks: "When the plaintiff starts to recover 10,000 dols. in a libel suit against a newspaper, and the jury give him 250 dols., it is easy to perceive that his feelings must be more numerous than satisfactory; and yet, in nine such cases out of ten, the lesser sum is a great deal more than he is equitably entitled to, upon a fair estimate of any real loss suffered by him through the publication. Perhaps the Baltimore *American*, just cast in 250 dols. for a libel, would always be willing to pay that sum for the sake of exposing and denouncing a flagrant wrong; we know that in some cases, requiring sharp correction, we should consider such expenditure upon our own part extremely moderate. At the same time, an injury to character, which can be atoned for by the payment of 250 dols., is really no injury at all; and the only result of such a finding may be to saddle an innocent defendant with costs."

The proprietors of the *Republican* have caused the arrest of C. J. Ferdinand, the former night editor, for selling the despatches, but Ferdinand claims that they were furnished with the full knowledge of the proprietors.

A German comic paper, published weekly, has appeared in St. Louis. Its title is *Die Vekme*.

The *Newport* (R. I.) *Mercury* is now one hundred and eleven years old. It was first established by Benjamin Franklin in 1758, and was then about the size of a sheet of foolscap. Now it contains eight columns to the page, and is very neatly printed. After the death of Franklin, his widow, Ann Franklin, took charge of it, and Solomon Southwick afterwards conducted it, and after his death the Barber family published it for seventy-two years, passing through the hands of three generations of them. In 1850 its present editor and proprietor, Mr. Fred. A. Pratt, became connected with it as the partner of three other gentlemen, and conducted it until 1852, when he became sub-editor and proprietor.

The New York *Era*, after an interval of two years, has been resumed.

A weekly paper for those interested in Scotch-American affairs is now published in New York, called the *American Scotsman*.

Messrs. P. T. Eaton & Co., of New York, are now publishing a new legal paper, called the *Law Weekly*.

A new paper in German and English, called the *Elections*, has been established in Chicago.

Frank Leslie, it is announced, will hereafter personally edit his *Illustrated Newspaper*.

Horace Greeley, of the *Tribune*, has just brought out a book on "Political Economy" from the Protectionist point of view.

The head of the New York *Times*' editorial staff is now Mr. Geo. Shepherd, formerly of St. Louis, and his chief assistants are Louis Jennings, late of the London *Times*, and husband of Miss Henriques, the actress, George Pond, formerly of the *Army and Navy Journal*, and Henry Sedley, formerly of the *Round Table*. Mr. Jones, the publisher, acts as courts of appeals, and the paper is certainly running very well under its new régime.

The editor of a Columbia (Mississippi) paper having recently got married, a contemporary says:—"May his father-in-law die rich, and enable poor Stevens to retire from the printing business, and set up a cake shop at a railway station."

A roving "interviewer" of a Cincinnati journal has caught Mr. Jefferson Davis on a Western steamboat, and discoursed with him at great length upon matters connected with the rebellion, all which is duly printed in the Cincinnati journal, for the edification of the public.

The editor of the Danbury (Ct.) *Times* is going into the "interviewing" business, and evidently to some purpose. He gives notice as follows:—"We shall 'interview' a number of our citizens this week on the subject of finance."

The New York *Evening Republic* has suspended publication. This leaves ten evening newspapers in the field in New York.

The suit against the New York *Tribune* for libel, brought by J. Nelson Luckey, has been decided in favour of the defendants.

The New York *Evening Telegram*, a journal in some mysterious manner connected with the New York *Herald*, which it greatly resembles in typographical appearance, is one of the best and most sprightly of the many sensational journals of the "metropolis." Cartoons hitting at the follies of the day, have, together with the pungent wit of its editors, run it into a large circulation.

Delaware has but one daily paper; but it is said that there are

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, November 25.

Rocheport having put himself forward as candidate for one of the electoral districts of this metropolis, has become the hero of the day, though it is not a very enviable heroship, nor is it likely to last for any length of time. He no doubt has many friends and supporters among the democratic party, and the lower classes of the *bourgeoisie*, with whom either from real or pretended principle he affects to place himself on an equality, lowering himself to their level, though himself belonging to one of the most ancient families of the French aristocracy. But he has also enemies—bitter, irreconcilable, political foes, who can never forgive his deserting their ranks and throwing himself into the arms of the mob. And it is his peculiar speciality to be continually quarrelling with his friends, and getting into scrapes. Thus he lately accused the *Figaro*—a paper with which he himself was connected not two years ago—of having accepted a Government bribe to write in the interests of the Emperor. Instead of refuting the assertion, that paper very properly treats it as a good joke, and publishes a bill drawn on the Emperor for 500,000*fr.* as Government subsidy for the current quarter, and then indulges, as a revenge, on the calumniator in some harmless jokes against him.

His latest venture is to start a new journal here, under the very full-flavoured title of the *Marseillaise*, which has already appeared, and is edited by M. Lissagaray, who has left the *Réforme* to undertake this new appointment. On the 16th inst. Rocheport sauntered down to the Prefecture of Police to declare and register the name of his new paper, according to the provisions of the Press law now in operation, and happened to see there M. Lomon, one of the editors of the *Pays*, a Government organ, when he made the cynical remark, in the hearing of a number of people, that he supposed Lomon was come to get paid for his articles. This being reported by some busybody to M. Lomon, of course resulted in a challenge, which was naturally accepted (as Rocheport is a young man of great personal courage), but I have not yet heard that the duel has taken place.

Another new paper appeared here on the 6th inst. It is called *Le Parlement*, and is said to be published, under the special auspices of M. Rouher, by Adrien Bravay, M. Grégoire Ganesco being the chief editor. It may, however, be doubted whether it is really under the above-named distinguished patronage, as it already contains some violent attacks on the ministers, most specially directed against M. Forcade de la Rouquette, which would be most unseemly and indelicate if done with the knowledge of the President of the Senate. But then, on the other hand, it may be a blind intended to mask some political scheme going on behind the scenes. Such things do happen. But to give your readers an idea of the "clever dodges" made use of here at Paris to puff new papers, M. Ganesco, a few days ago, made the following grave announcement, in editorial type, at the head of the paper: "To-day we opened our letters by the post in the presence of M. Schiller, our printer, and M. Payant" (perhaps, also, M. Payé), "a commercial celebrity in our neighbourhood, and can prove, by the certificates signed by those credible witnesses, that we received a fresh accession of 125 new subscribers to *Le Parlement* from the Departments, making now a total of 615.

† The agitation in the North of France for the repeal of the Commercial treaty with Great Britain has been met with great energy displayed in the South. At Bordeaux, where they are almost unanimously in favour of free trade, a public meeting has been convened, the Mayor of Bordeaux, in the chair, when a series of resolutions in favour of free trade were passed, and subscriptions liberally entered into for the support of a new organ, which it was resolved to establish immediately. Measures have been promptly taken, and the first number appeared on the 14th inst. It is called *Le libre Echange*, and will be published every Sunday for the express purpose of advocating the principles of free trade. The chief editor is M. Felix Solar, formerly connected with the *Courrier de Bordeaux*, and subsequently chief editor of *La Presse*. The secretary of the editor is M. Charles de Lorbac, formerly on the editorial staff of *La Presse* and *La Liberté*, and chief editor

of the *Bordelais*. The *gérant*, or manager, is M. Charles Lallemand, who signs himself "Proprietor of the *Bordelais*, and correspondent of the French, German, and English illustrated journals."

M. Clement Duvernois, the Emperor's confidential journalist, has been appointed Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

AVANT-COURIER.

The "irreconcilable" journal *Le Rappel*, has adopted the calendar promulgated by the Directory during the revolutionary speech in the last century; for instance, it number of Tuesday is headed "28th Vendémiaire (vintage month), year LXXVIII."

M. Gill, the author of the caricatures which appear in the *Eclipse*, a French illustrated journal, well known both in Paris and London, is seriously ill.

The journals announce the death, at Neuilly, of M. Edouard Gourdon, formerly Chef de Bureau, in Paris, of the Press, and afterwards Secretary-General at the Prefecture of the Cotes-du-Nord. The deceased gentleman had been editor of the *Patrie*, and, in 1856, published an "Histoire du Congrès de Paris," compiled from authentic documents. He was also the author of several novels.

It is contemplated to introduce a bill into the Corps Legislatif abolishing the stamp duty on newspapers, and reducing the caution money required for daily political organs to 30,000*fr.*

M. Ferdinand Girardeau, the new director of the Press department at the French Home Office, is trying to ingratiate himself with journalists. He has sent a circular to the different ministries and public offices, directing that a compendium of all news likely to interest newspaper readers shall be forwarded every day to the Minister of the Interior, there to lie at the disposal of editors. The only question is whether by editors M. Girardeau means foes as well as friends, for the Imperial Government has not yet got out of the trick of believing that the only papers worthy of encouragement are the official and semi-official organs. If, however, the measure is meant to be general, we may be allowed to hope that M. Girardeau will put the crowning touch to his good work by deputing a competent person carefully to revise and edit the telegrams and news sent in by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. We would especially ask that the gentleman selected should be well versed in the hierarchy of British titles. He could then rectify all the despatches that treat of the doings of Lord Gladstone and Sir Bright, and correct the notion that her Majesty confers the title of esquire upon her subjects in reward for distinguished services.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

M. Saint-Marc-Girardin has been named editor of the *Journal des Savants*, in place of the late M. Sainte-Beuve. His competitor was M. Renan, who only got one vote.—*Galignani*.

The number of journals in Paris, according to the latest statistics, is 851. Of these 30 are political and 77 religious. Among the latter, 22 belong to Protestant and 11 to Israelitish denominations. Twenty-nine journals are engaged in matters of instruction; with the administration of justice and jurisprudence, 90; 16 belong to the administration, 46 treat of medicine, 16 of military, and 100 of agricultural and horticultural subjects; 67 dedicated to the theatre and fine arts, 22 to mining and railroads, 79 to finance, 9 to Spiritualism, and 4 to Freemasonry.

Paris journalism is now enjoying a very unwonted degree of freedom, but foreign papers are frequently seized and confiscated. During the month of August the New York *Courrier des Etats-Unis* was confiscated twenty times in the Paris post office. During sixteen days of last month a Frankfort paper was confiscated ten times, and Italian, Belgian, and Austrian papers hardly shared a better fate. On one day four English papers were seized. Some foreign journals are permanently prohibited.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, November 24.

In the debate that ensued in the Prussian House of Representatives on the first reading of the resolution for referring all political and Press offences to trial by jury, the House confirmed the principle by a majority of 87. Owing to the resignation of the Minister of Finance and the appointment of his successor, various subjects of more pressing urgency have occupied the attention of the House since then, and nearly a month had elapsed before a day could be appointed for the

second reading. On the 17th inst., however, it was at length again brought forward, and Dr. Ebert moved the repeal of certain limitations to the freedom of the Press, among which he mentioned the deposit of caution money, the necessity of furnishing a copy of all papers to the police, confiscation, and withdrawal of the permission granted to carry on the business of the Press, as well as trial by jury for all offences of the Press. In support of his motion the learned doctor pointed out that the new criminal code for the North German confederation expressly left it to the Legislatures of the separate States to make their own punishments for Press offences, so that it was undoubtedly within the competency of the House to legislate on the subject. This was admitted by the special commission appointed last year in their report; but in the meantime the new federal law for the regulation of trades has been passed and is already in operation, by which the requirement of obtaining a concession for any trade connected with the Press is cancelled, and other alterations are made. The Minister of the Interior said he perfectly agreed in the necessity of a revision of the Press law, partly because many holes had been made in it by federal legislation, and partly as it contained anomalies and contradictions. But he denied that these could be remedied by any alterations, as they could never be better than patchwork, and that it had become needful to re-model the whole subject and pass a new Press law. He had, therefore, already given orders to make the draft of a new law, which was now in preparation by the law officers of the State, and as soon as it was ready he should lay it before the Council of Ministers for their approbation. Under these circumstances he requested Dr. Ebert to withdraw from the order of the day his motion on the subject. At the same time the Minister added that he could give no further promise as to the time when he should be able to bring in the Bill, owing to the important business that at present occupied the exclusive attention of the Cabinet. Besides, a similar Act of legislation was now passing through the Parliament of Saxony, and it would be quite as well to wait and see what enactments were made in that quarter. Herr Duncker regretted that with such uncertain and indefinite promises he must decline to withdraw his motion. The Minister of the Interior explained. He considered it his duty as a man of honour not to promise more than he could perform. He did not mean to say that the new Press law should be postponed to an indefinite period, and he was sorry to find his words, as well as his intentions, had been misconstrued. He wished only to add that if, after what had been said, the House should nevertheless proceed with the order of the day, he could take no part in the debate, as it would ill become him to submit his views and intentions to the House before communicating them, in the first instance, to his colleagues and obtaining their approbation. Herr Heyse moved that the question before the House be struck out from the order of the day, which was seconded by Count Schwerin; finally, Herr Duncker gave his consent.

As the editor of the Berlin democratic journal *Die Zukunft*, Dr. Guido Weiss, has lately been returned as member of the Prussian Parliament by the constituency of Frankfort, he refused to stand his trial on a charge of acts committed against the Press law. As, however, the criminal court was peremptory in its demands for his appearance, he appealed to the House of Representatives for protection, which brought on a lively debate that ended with the formal enunciation of the principle that as long as he was a member of that House proceedings could not be taken against him. In consequence of this decision the prosecution was directed against Stephany, the editor-substitute, who was found guilty of offence of Majesty, and condemned to six months' imprisonment.

Professor Reclam of the University of Leipzig, with the assistance and promised support of several physicians of repute, is about to publish a new medical quarterly at Brunswick.

At Berlin a new class paper is announced for a set of tradesmen not yet represented in the Press of any country in the world. Herr G. Baste, of Berlin, announces himself as editor and publisher of the *Deutsche Hutmachers Zeitung*, the special organ of the German hatters, and in his prospectus expresses his hopes of bringing the German style of hats into general use.

On the 1st inst. Dr. Emil Hartmeyer, one of the proprietors of the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary

as chief editor of that paper, on which occasion he was presented with a picture containing the photograms of all the members of the establishment. S.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, November 20.

The Austrians already duly appreciate the blessings of trial by jury, and the fullest confidence is reposed in that institution, in addition to which it has broken down the system of secrecy hitherto pursued in official and forensic circles, and as the representatives of the Press are now permitted to attend and report the trials, the public have the benefit of being able to read the proceedings the next morning at breakfast. The provincial juries seem equally animated with the wish to do their duty fearlessly, and without truckling to the "powers that be." Of this we have just had a striking example, when the jury at Gratz, in Steyermark, by their verdict, gave a sharp reprimand to the Procurator of the State for his blind zeal in the cause of the Catholic Church. A local weekly, called the *Freiheit*, published at that town, has been frequently confiscated, and had to undergo prosecutions for its attacks on the Romish hierarchy. In an open letter to Dr. Herbst, the Austrian Minister of Justice, the editor, Herr W. Zimmermann, lately complained that the State Procurator had received special instructions from head quarters to proceed against the *Freiheit* with all the rigour of the law, which, however, had a different effect from the one contemplated, as instead of ruining the paper, it only tended to increase its circulation by an addition of five thousand new subscribers. From what transpired at this fresh trial, it was apparent that the paper in question was really in the black books of the Government on the denunciation of the State Procurator, who had *plein pouvoir* to prosecute it systematically. But fortunately now the jury steps in to give an impartial verdict after a fair trial, instead of judgment being rendered by paid officials after some proceedings very like a mock trial. In this instance the charge brought against the paper was an article showing up the extent of the traffic in indulgences and free passports to heaven without the necessity of stopping, for any length of time, at the halfway station called Purgatory, carried on by the Pope of Rome. The prosecutor endeavoured to prove that the article was an insult to the Catholic Church. "The *Freiheit*," he said, "follows a tendency subversive of religion and morality; the jury should consider the influence the paper exercises over the minds of the working classes, and especially young people. To-day they preach social Democracy, to-morrow, Communism will be the watchword, and all attacks are inevitably commenced against the Church as the visible organ of conservative stability;"—his final prerogative being, "it is high time to put a definitive stop to this criminal language of the Press, and the unjustifiable conduct of its editor." But the jurymen could not see the connection between an attack on the dogma concerning Indulgences and Purgatory and the theory of modern social Democracy, and returned an unanimous verdict of acquittal, which was greeted with vociferous cheers from the audience.

As a general rule the reporters of the Press are allowed to be present at the trials, which are also open to the public, and it is only on special occasions that the sittings are held with closed doors; but even that precaution does not prevent the proceedings of the court from being reported in the newspapers. Of this we have just had a significant proof by a Press prosecution commenced by Father Joseph Kassewelder, Provincial Superior of the Order of the Redemptorists in Austria, and Prior of the monastery of that order at Maria-Stiegen, near Vienna, against Joseph Lotzky, editor of the *Vorstadt Zeitung*, or "suburban journal," a local paper of large circulation among the lower classes, for alleged libel contained in a *feuilleton* article, entitled, "A Convent Story of Vienna," giving an account of a rape purporting to have been committed by a monk of the above-mentioned monastery on a little girl. The judge decided that in such a case as this the public should be excluded, and the doors were accordingly closed, but that each party should select five persons of their confidence to be present at the trial, and, in fact, to represent the public. The prior was represented by Father Wiesinger, who wore his his official robes as one of the chamberlains of the Pope, and it was singular that he selected, as his persons of confidence, three stenographers and two reporters, whilst it is scarcely to be

wondered at that the defendant should have chosen five brother journalists. Before the proceedings commenced, the president of the court, observing that all the ten witnesses were connected with the Press, addressed them in a few words of admonition to be discreet in their report of the trial, which could not be prevented from getting into the newspapers. The next day a full report of the trial, notwithstanding the well-meant admonition of the judge, appeared in every journal published in this city. TEUTON.

HUNGARY.

On the 1st of November a new political journal, in the German language, appeared at Pesth, under the title of *Ungarisch-Oesterreichische Allgemeine Zeitung*, edited by Count Olivier Bethlen, the proprietor being Herr Albert Wadianer. The programme states that it is in connection with Bethlen's *Diplomatische Wochenschrift*, and in a general way will support the principles defended by that organ. It does not profess to be devoted exclusively to the interests of any one particular political party in Hungary, but rather the whole of the Empire. The title of "Ungarisch-Oesterreichische" is not intended to assume any superiority for the Hungarians over any other nationalities composing the Austrian Monarchy, but to support the influence that Hungary is entitled to claim as an important integral factor in the Confederation, on the foreign policy of the Empire.

The *Pesti Naplo* is about to become a Government organ, and the new Reform party are going to establish an organ of their own under the direction of Czengery; Herr Halase, formerly, for a short time, the temporary editor of the *Pesther Lloyd*, is talked of as editor, but we have reason to believe that nothing is yet definitely settled.

Herr Stephan Benyey having retired from the editorship of the political journal *Repssava*, and of the satirical periodical *Ludas Matyi*, the proprietor of those two papers, Karl Meszaros, has given notice to the authorities that he has entrusted the editorship of the *Repssava* to his wife, Antonia Meszaros, who will in future sign as responsible editress.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, November 24.

Messrs. Bergstedt and Wallenberg have obtained from the Government a "concession," enabling them to form a joint-stock company for establishing a printing-office, and publishing one or several newspapers in this city. In the prospectus that has been issued the principle is laid down that the company will not support any other periodical journals than those that agree with the views of its members; conservative, with respect to the constitutional monarchy, to the reform of the representative system as passed in 1865 to the rights of property, and to equality in the eye of the law; and on the other hand, liberal with regard to freedom of religion, public education, reduction of taxation, simplification of the administration of the Government, reform of the currency, legislation on the system of credit and free trade. *Dagens Nyheter* has ventured to guess that it is the intention of the new company to purchase the *Stockholmsposten*, which now appears three times a week, and publish it daily in an enlarged and improved form. The joint-stock capital is fixed for the present at 150,000 rixdalers, divided into 300 shares of 500 rixdalers each. NORD.

DENMARK.

A report having been circulated at Copenhagen that the already large number of journals published in that city is about to be still further increased by a new Conservative daily, it is now ascertained to be the proposed enlargement of an already existing periodical called the *Landsbladet* and its transformation to a daily paper, which will swell the number to ten; the others being at present the *Berlingske Tidende*, published in morning and evening editions, exclusive of Sundays, *Dagbladet*, the *Adresse-Avisen*, the *Dags-Telegrafen*, *Dagens Nyheder*, *Nyt Aftenblad*, which appears also on Sundays, the *Faeredrelandet*, *Folkets-Avis* and *Flyveposten*, besides several twice and three times a week, and a host of hebdomadal class journals.

BELGIUM.

A Belgian weekly paper, the *Flandern*, issues the following peculiar notice: "Cloister scandals belong so essentially to a

true reflex of the times, that a journal cannot pass them by. But it would be impossible for a weekly paper to communicate all these stories; besides, a respectable journal must set itself against violating the moral feelings of its readers, especially the female and younger portion. Taking these considerations into account, the editor has determined to publish weekly an especial supplement for men, which will also contain much 'in the language of Rome itself,' and thus for a very small circle of readers."

RUSSIA.

A new journal is announced to appear at St. Petersburg on the first of January next, in the Russian language, under the title of *Selkoe Cloba*, or, "a word for women."

The Russian *Invalide*, which has been discontinued ever since the beginning of this year, is announced to reappear as a daily paper in the Russian language on the 1st of January next.

ITALY.

The late Minister Ferraris is understood to have left behind him for the use of his successor in office the sum of 250,000*l.*, intended for secret service money, as during the last three months he had no occasion for it, and granted no subsidies to the Press. It is no doubt a pretty sum to influence the Press with at the new elections. Signor De Maria, Rudine's Cabinet Secretary, was formerly correspondent of the *Perseveranza*, and as the Marchese Rudini is generally believed to belong to the *Consorteria*, it is scarcely to be expected that the Cabinet Menabrea-Digny-Rudini should not be ably served and powerfully supported by the Press.

Canzio, the son-in-law of Garibaldi, and editor of the *Gazzettino Rosa* of Genoa, who has been for some time in prison, has been set at liberty.

BAVARIA.

Herr E. Zander announces to the readers of his *Volksboten*, that after having undergone the full term of his six months' imprisonment in the fortress, to which he was sentenced for libel, he has returned to Munich, and will devote his whole energies to the interests of the paper, but that his son will continue to undertake the duties of responsible editor, as he has done during his father's imprisonment.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, November 16th.

In the *Galaxy* of the current month there is an article which professes to disclose some of the secrets of the *Imperialist* newspaper (of whose appearance I advised you in a former letter), and of the "party" it was stated to represent. Whether the article, which is signed with the initial "L." and is by some ascribed to General Logan, be worthy of credit or not—and there are diverse opinions on this point—it boldly asserts that more than one Democratic committee helped the now defunct paper with funds as well as some prominent Democratic politicians, and "the reputed owner of a Democratic journal." It cautiously, perhaps prudently, abstains from mentioning the names of these visionary founders of "an Empire on the ruins of the American Republic"—a course which has not created a favourable impression as to the trustworthiness of the article; and for my own part, I am not inclined to place much faith in it, but it is my duty to record the fact of its publication. The "inner life" of the Press is a subject of far greater interest with us than with you. Scarcely a paper of any pretensions comes out without treating some items of journalistic news as a public topic. I believe I could fill your twenty pages with one month's accumulation of articles and extracts relating to Press matters without drawing upon my private information. But *cui bono*? I should only nauseate your readers if I sent you such "personal" information as that "Caius Julius Smith, the proprietor of the *Western Prairie Wanderer*, is believed to be realising five hundred dollars a week from his paper," or "that Mr. Jefferson C. Brick, the editor of the *Freedman's Champion*, has just taken a coloured woman to wife." The truth is these men are nobodies outside their narrow world, and would be less than nobodies in Europe; but where every hundred or so of

houses have a newspaper taking its name from them, the types are nearly worn out that compose the names of the manufacturers of these sheets—I will spare the word "editor" the degradation of associating it with them—so often are they used. I therefore confine myself to notes and memoranda relating to our leading journals.

I am sorry to say that the *Chicago Universe*, the filthy organ of the "woman's rights" movement, is to be transferred to New York forthwith.

The *San Francisco Daily Herald* has suspended. Mr. George Sheppard, formerly connected with the *Toronto Globe* and the *Quebec Mercury* has succeeded Mr. Bigelow as editor of the *New York Times*.

A new weekly Roman Catholic paper is about to start at New Orleans, called the *Morning Star*. It will be under the supervision of three priests and two laymen, appointed by the archbishop. A new weekly is also coming out at Boston, under the title of the *Wheel of Progress*. By the way, *Pokrok*, or "Progress," is the title of a paper I lately came across, printed in the Bohemian language at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The *San Francisco Bulletin*, which has been an evening paper since its commencement, has begun the publication of a morning edition. This is one of the results of the Pacific Railroad. Formerly all the conveyances from the city started in the afternoon, but now they leave San Francisco in the morning.

Among queer titles of new papers may be noted the *Weekly Six-Shooter*, at Mountain City, Nevada, and the *New North-West*, at Deer Lodge City, Montana. A newspaper in Pennsylvania, called the *Corry Whetstone*, has been enlarged, and now calls itself the *Grindstone*.

The *Arkansas Liberal*, published at Little Rock, is defunct. The *Tribune*, the temperance paper lately started at Boston, has been consolidated with the *Boston News*. John H. Eastburn, for fifty years a printer in Boston, and founder of the *Boston Atlas*, has just retired from business.

SOL.

Mr. John Bigelow, the late respected editor of the *New York Times*, is going to Europe on a visit which may last a considerable time.

The Turkish Minister here, Blaque Bey, was many years editor of one of the most popular papers of Constantinople.

It is said that there are only two persons in the United States who have not communicated their views on the Byron question to the newspapers, and they are citizens of Cape Cod, who went off mackerel fishing six weeks ago, and have not returned.

The comic paper, the *Chip Basket*, is edited by a youthful son of Mr. Silver, a mere boy.

The *College Courant*, published at New Haven, has commenced a series of illustrated biographies of distinguished individuals connected with education. The series commences with a sketch and portrait of Charles W. Eliot, the new President of Harvard.

A New York journal objects to the Associated Press system of sending by cable the opinions of the newspapers—the *Standard*, the *Telegraph*, and the rest of them—to America. A greater farce could scarcely be imagined, and can only be justified by going back to the days when America had little Press, and not much more opinion of her own. What the *Times* thinks is the reverse of what the *Standard* thinks, and if there could be another reverse, that is what the *Pall Mall* would think. So they neutralise each other, and if one opinion be sent it deceives New York, and if these three opinions be sent, New York is—as you were. But who are these profound thinkers, and what is the use of sending their thoughts at all? Are a man's thoughts any better for being printed in Printing-house-square? or in the Lane from which our jaunty "yellow-faced" contemporary emerges? or in that poverty-stricken, stuccoed erection at the corner of Shoe-lane, whence the *Standard* issues? It must tickle the writers to think that their profound wisdom finds such a messenger, and that from one end of a continent to another their utterances are borne on the wings of electricity. When any subject connected with England, and deeply interesting to the Union, is in discussion, such opinions might be telegraphed, to be taken at what they are worth, and as indicating in some degree public opinion. But surely it is too much of a good thing that the views of writers in these papers on every-day topics and on foreign affairs should be transmitted by cable.—*Anglo-American Times*.

The "Parsee Letters" in the *New York World* are said to be the work of Manton Marble.

The editor of the *Newbern, N.C., Times* has been compelled to advertise that business engagements compel him to decline all challenges.

The *New York Republic* still persists in publishing what it calls "Personal" items under the sub-heads of "Masculine," "Feminine," and "Neuter."

The *New York World*, without sufficient warrant, probably, states that the organ of the spiritualists is printed on double medium paper, and admirably adapted to (w)rapping purposes.

A paper has been started at Walkerton, County of Bruce, by Mr. G. W. Cameron, formerly of Chatham. It is called the *Telescope*.

The editor of the *Utah Reporter* has been beaten almost to death at Brigham city, it is surmised, on account of articles in his paper against polygamy.

A Miss Lucy advertises in a Mississippi paper that she "is of good birth and education, and is willing to marry an editor, believing herself able to support one."

It is alleged that the Western Union Telegraph Company has temporarily destroyed the *San Francisco Herald* by making extortionate charges for the transmission of messages from the Atlantic seaboard, at the instance of a rival newspaper proprietor. This flagrant act of injustice and oppression will give a new impetus to the movement for a Governmental postal telegraph system, as it furnishes a strong reason, in addition to the powerful ones heretofore advanced, in favour of that proposition.

A new daily paper, to be called the *Day*, is announced to appear in Philadelphia. It will be published by Mr. Alexander Cummings, who has had considerable journalistic experience in this city and New York.

The *Alta California* has consolidated with the *Times*, to be called the *Alta California and San Francisco Times*.

A paper has appeared at Ascuncion called the *Regeneracion Paraguayo*.

An illustrated comic paper, in the German language, has recently been started in St. Louis. It is called *Die Vehme*.

Senator Sprague, through a Mr. Halstead, has purchased the *Washington National Intelligencer*, designing to make it his organ.

Mr. John Swinton, for many years an editorial writer on the *New York Times*, is writing a work entitled "Ten Years of Journalism."

Mrs. Ottendorfer is the sole proprietor of the largest German daily newspaper in the city of New York. Many years ago her husband died, leaving her a family of children and a small paper. She went earnestly to work at once, attending herself to all the details of the office, and she now controls a very rich and powerful journal. She drives to her office in the morning, looks after its multitudinous affairs, and returns to her elegant home at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Henry W. Raymond, the eldest son of the late Henry J. Raymond, will not take an editorial position on the *New York Times*, as the papers throughout the country are announcing. The young man, with a commendable display of good sense, and emulating the example of his father, will commence at the beginning and work up. He takes a position as a reporter, and will hold that position until merit and experience entitle him to another.

We learn from an American journal, the *North-Western Christian Advocate*, that there are at present 300 German newspapers or periodicals of various kinds in the United States, exclusive of journals, such as the *Agriculturist*, which, though appearing in English, publish an edition at the same time in the German language.—*North German Correspondent*.

CANADA.

The *Canadian Illustrated News* made its appearance on the 18th of October at Ottawa.

The *Toronto Telegraph* gets off this:—"The fellows who do the Government touting of Kingston, Ottawa, and Montreal, are circulating a statement which originated with one of the drunken old pensioners of the Ministers of Justice, to the effect that Sir John A. Macdonald has the *Daily Telegraph* under his thumb. We ask Sir John in a kindly spirit, to call off his hounds, and to call them quickly. We are not, at present, in the humour to be trifled with by him or by any one else."

The *Montreal Gazette* of October 29th, in announcing the death on the previous day of Mr. Henry Pearce Driscoll, Q.C., says:—"Mr. Driscoll was born in Dublin in the year 1792, and, consequently, was in the seventy-eighth year of his age at the time of his death. At an early age he entered the army, in the 2nd Battalion 67th Regiment, and went with it to Spain, where the battalion lay most of the time in garrison at Carthage. On the breaking out of the American war of 1812, the 100th Regiment was added to the army; and Mr. Driscoll received a lieutenancy in the corps, coming with it to Canada. The regiment was sent to the Niagara frontier, and participated in most of the actions fought there, performing a brilliant feat of arms by the surprise and capture of Fort Niagara in the winter of 1813. At the close of the war, the 100th was disbanded, and settled on crown lands in Carleton County, on the Ottawa. Lieut. Driscoll went to Montreal, and studied for the bar, at the same time editing the *Herald* newspaper. He some time afterwards edited the *Courant*. In May, 1823, Mr. Driscoll was received at the bar, and got on rapidly, gaining the repute of being a clever, eloquent, and witty lawyer. He was invited to run for the representation of the counties of Carleton and Russell, but declined. A strange peculiarity about him was that he did not like his own countrymen, and too frequently decried them. In 1837-38, Mr. Driscoll was an loyalist, and was appointed Lieut.-Colonel of Volunteers. In time he received his silk gown from Attorney-General Ogden; and for a long period was Crown Prosecutor in the Criminal Terms. In 1840 he was appointed police magistrate. So well did he stand in his profession at this time, that a seat on the bench lay before him; but, unfortunately, his levity of character, joined to an irritable and sensitive spirit, which led to quarrels with his *cow-fères*, and a disregard of public opinion, precluded him from a position to which his talents clearly entitled him.

WEST INDIES.

DOMINICA.—The death of Thomas Philip Traill, Esq., is announced. Mr. Traill was a member of the Local Legislature, and editor of the *Dominican*. He was one of the most influential men of the colony, and was besides very much respected by persons of all classes, from the Governor downwards. Mr. Traill's colleague in the Legislature was Mr. Gordon, and they died within a week of each other. Mr. Traill was a member of the Wesleyan society there.

CHINA.

The Chinese newspaper published in Shanghai, and edited by the Rev. Y. J. Allen, is largely circulated, some 35,000 copies having been sold at one to two cents per number. The paper treats on the practical and mechanical appliances of the West, such as railways, telegraphs, life insurances, and our general trade, wealth, &c.

AUSTRALIA.

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE.—An untoward accident happened to the branch mail steamer *Balclutha* on her passage from Adelaide to King George's Sound. On the morning of Tuesday, the 17th of August, when about fifty miles SSE of Cape Borda, she broke her shaft, and then sprang a leak in the after compartment, the bulkhead of which giving way the water got into the hold, and rendered the steamer unmanageable. The passengers and mail bags were placed on board the *Aurifera* and conveyed back to Adelaide. Owing to the breaking down of the *Balclutha*, the South Australian people had to wait longer than usual for their mails, which were brought on to Melbourne by the *Malta*, and transhipped for Adelaide in the *Rangitira*. The proprietors of the *Argus*, in order to secure the European news some hours earlier than it could be obtained *via* Queenscliff dispatched a special steamer to await the arrival of the Royal Mail steamship *Malta* off Cape Otway, with instructions to their representative to board her, obtain the mail dispatches, land them at Apollo Bay, and telegraph the intelligence so received to the office in Melbourne.

A new daily paper will probably appear in London next spring. The proprietors of the *Morning Star* refuse to let their valuable premises, on which they have a lease of nearly ninety years, and they retain their machinery untouched.

Our Monthly Necrology.

M. CHARLES AUGUSTIN SAINTE-BEUVE.

Charles Augustin Sainte-Beuve, whose death was announced in the last number of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*, was born at Boulogne-sur-Mer, December 23, 1804. His father having died two months before Sainte-Beuve's birth, he was left to the care of his mother, a lady of English parentage, who undertook his early education. At the age of fourteen he went to Paris, where he completed a course of study in the Collège Charlemagne. On leaving college he studied medicine and anatomy, and received the appointment of outdoor surgeon to the Hôpital St. Louis. The incompatibility of his profession with his poetical tendencies had already given rise to feelings of repugnance, which he has described in his preface to the *Poésies de Joseph Delorme*, "when the appearance of the 'Odes and Ballads' of Victor Hugo decided his future course. He resigned his situation as surgeon, and abandoned himself heart and soul to poetry and literature. He was presented to Victor Hugo, and allied himself with De Musset and others in the *Cénacle*. Soon after appeared his 'Historical and Critical Picture of French Poetry and of the French Theatre in the Sixteenth Century' (1828). The 'Consolation' appeared shortly after, and met with better success. The *Cénacle* was brushed away by the revolution of 1830; and Sainte-Beuve then joined the staff of the *Globe*, the avowed organ of the Simonian sect; but he soon grew tired of the association, and transferred his services to the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, in the pages of which he resumed the series of literary 'Portraits' commenced in the *Revue de Paris*. Not long after he joined the *National*, then under the able management of Armand Carrel, and contributed some excellent papers to that popular journal. In 1837 he made a visit to Switzerland, and there conceived a 'History of Port-Royal,' which took him eight years to complete. In 1840 he accepted a librarianship in the Mazarin Library, and in 1845 he was admitted into the French Academy to fill up the vacancy caused by the death of Casimir Delavigne. In 1850 he joined the *Constitutionnel*, and in its columns first appeared that charming budget of literary biography and criticism, entitled 'Causeries du Lundi,' or Monday Conversations, an improved continuation of his 'Portraits,' which already form a series of volumes. Soon after the *coup-d'état* in December, 1851, he was attached to the *Moniteur*, and named Professor of Latin Poetry at the Collège of France; but the insubordination of the students exhibited at his first lecture obliged him to discontinue the course. In 1857 he was appointed Professor at the Normal School. The Emperor signified the occasion of his departure for Algeria at the end of April, 1865, by a grateful tribute of esteem for a distinguished man of letters in the elevation of M. Sainte-Beuve to the dignity of senator.

MR. THOMAS FRASER.

On the 2nd of November there died, at Florence, a gentleman once well known in the best English society of Paris—Mr. Thomas Fraser, of Eskdale. For nearly 20 years he took a leading part in Parisian political life, which, as correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* in its palmy days, he described for the benefit of the English public with a fidelity, regularity, and raciness which none of his successors in that arduous post have surpassed, and but few can hope to equal. He retired from the profession some 14 years ago, and resided chiefly in London, where, for a time, he acted as secretary to the Hudson's Bay Company.

M. EUGÈNE FORCADE.

M. Eugène Forcade, the distinguished French journalist, died on the 6th of November. Deceased was born at Marseilles in 1820, and at the early age of seventeen he founded the well-known journal, the *Sémaphore*. In 1840 he removed to Paris, and in consequence of the appearance of certain articles he became connected with the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, to which he was a regular contributor. Like many other French journalists, his fearless criticisms led him to personal experience of French prison life. This was in 1851, when he was incarcerated for three months for articles in the *Messenger de l'Assemblée*. He was at the time chief editor of the *Patrie*. M. Forcade was the author of 'Historical Studies' and of 'History of the Causes of the War in the East,' published in 1854.

Law Intelligence.

VICE-CHANCELLORS' COURTS.—NOVEMBER 3.

(Before Sir R. MALINS.)

BRADBURY V. BEETON.

THE hearing of the motion opened yesterday to restrain the defendant from publishing and selling a penny weekly periodical called *Punch and Judy*, was resumed this morning.

Mr. Jessell, Mr. C. Hall, and Mr. Lindley, were for the plaintiffs, the proprietors and publishers of *Punch*, and they objected to the publication of *Punch and Judy* on the ground of similarity of form, and of the defendant making an unfair use of the appearance and title of the plaintiffs' publication.

Mr. Glasse, Q.C., and Mr. Langley were for the defendant, and contended that the plaintiffs had not sustained, and could not sustain, any damage through the new publication.

Mr. C. Hall having been heard in reply.

The Vice-Chancellor said the case was not free from difficulty, but upon the whole of the facts he was unable to come to the conclusion that the plaintiffs were entitled to an injunction. After stating the law as to the rights of persons to trade marks, and that the defendant could not use the name *Punch*, as that would clearly have been an infringement of the plaintiffs' property in the title, his honour said that *Punch* had been published for a quarter of a century, and was known to be a publication of a high character and reputation—it never having contained anything of an offensive nature to make it unfit for the table of any family; and also said that another publication called *Judy* had been in circulation for some time, and that no complaint had been made against it; and further that, upon the whole facts, particularly that no person could be mistaken in the titles, he could not grant the injunction asked for. His Honour added that if all parties agreed to treat this application as the hearing of the cause, the bill might be dismissed without costs.

Mr. C. Hall said the plaintiffs would agree to do that, but Mr. Glasse said he could not accede to it.

Therefore the motion was simply refused.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—NOVEMBER 3.

(Sittings in Banco, before Lord Chief Justice BOVILL and Justices WILLES, KEATINGE, and BRETT.)

VARLEY V. ELLIS.

THIS was an action against the *Daily Telegraph* newspaper to recover about 1,500*l.*, for penalties of 50*l.* each, for having inserted advertisements offering a reward for the recovery of property which had been stolen or lost, and announcing that "no questions would be asked." At the trial before Mr. Justice Keatinge, at Guildhall, the verdict was for the defendant.

Mr. Serjeant Robinson now moved for a rule to enter a verdict for the plaintiff, or for a new trial. He stated that the action was founded upon the 25th Geo. II., cap. 36, but at the trial it turned out that the 7th and 8th Geo. IV., cap. 27, repealed an immense number of sections of acts of parliament, and among them was the section declared upon, "so far as relates to advertisements." The judge acting upon this directed a verdict for the defendant. Subsequent investigation, however, showed that the original provision was re-enacted by the 7th & 8th Geo. IV., cap. 29. This last statute was in its turn repealed by the 24th and 25th Vict., cap. 95, but the provision was re-enacted again by the 24th and 25th Vict., cap. 96, sect. 102, and still remained law.

The Lord Chief Justice said that this was an action by a common informer, who brought it without the slightest notice or warning, and he having taken his chance of recovering heavy penalties failed at the trial. The plaintiff never was properly in court, for he filed a declaration which disclosed no course of action at all, because it was founded upon a repealed act of parliament. If at the trial the defendant had not appeared, and the plaintiff had obtained a verdict, it would not have been worth the parchment upon which it was written, for the declaration would have disclosed no cause of action. It was clear that the defendant was entitled to the verdict, and it was equally clear to his mind that they ought not to grant a new trial.

Rule refused.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—NOVEMBER 3.

(Before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE and Justices BLACKBURN, MELLOR, and LUSH.)

EX PARTE SMITH V. "THE TIMES."

MR. LITTLER applied, on behalf of William Smith, a stonemason, now undergoing an imprisonment of nine months for the manslaughter of his wife at Hounslow, for a rule calling upon Mr. Francis Goodlake, the publisher of the *Times*, to show cause why a criminal information should not be filed against him for libel. The particulars of the case and the trial have been so recently before the public that they need not be repeated. The learned counsel stated that Smith having been committed for wilful murder, he was tried last week before Mr. Justice Lush at the Old Bailey, when it appeared the case was one in which there had been an amount of provocation seldom heard of, and the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter. On the 29th September there appeared an article in the *Times*, commenting on this and other murders, and to which the prisoner took exception. The learned counsel then read the report of the evidence published in the *Times*, and the article, and called attention to the discrepancies in the two. The article, the learned counsel stated, observed that the evidence was somewhat confused, which he said should have been a reason for the writer's refraining from charging the man with having committed a brutal and cold-blooded murder.

The Lord Chief Justice said the article appeared to have been written before the trial, and could not have prejudiced the man.

Mr. Littler said it showed the manner in which the article was written, was written on insufficient evidence.

Chief Justice said the man did not appear to have suffered from application appear to be made in the interests of justice.

Mr. Littler said that after the inquest a letter was forwarded to the *Times* for publication, pointing out the errors and inaccuracies contained in the article, but no notice was taken of it, and on the 13th October there appeared another article in the *Times*, in which, in reference to the Whitton murder, the *Times* stated, "We have been supping full of horrors lately," and referring to the dreadful Hounslow murder.

The Lord Chief Justice said he was of opinion there should be no rule. They must not forget, in refusing the rule for a criminal information, that they were not preventing the person who felt aggrieved from obtaining redress either in a civil or criminal court by an indictment or by a civil action for damages. The only question the Court had to consider was whether this was a case in which they should interpose with the prerogative writ of the Court, and dispense thereby with the other modes of proceeding. The article, no doubt, seemed to assume a state of facts which did not exist, and in refusing the rule it was not necessary to act on the notion that the relator had not strong grounds of complaint against the article. There appeared to be no deliberate intention on the part of the writer to injure this man, nor was there any reckless disregard of what was due to the character of another, and therefore there was practically and virtually no intentional malice on the part of the writer against the applicant. It would have been quite a different thing if the application had been made on the ground that the due administration of justice had been seriously interfered with by the article, but that did not appear to be the case, and from the verdict of the jury the article did not appear to have had any effect on their minds. Under these circumstances the Court could not grant the application.

The other learned Judges concurred.

Rule refused.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—NOVEMBER 3.

(Sittings in Nisi Prius, in Middlesex, before Mr. Justice SMITH and a Common Jury.)

BEDFORD V. GREAVES.

THIS was an action to recover damages for an alleged libel.

Mr. D. Keane, Q.C., and Mr. Geary, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. M. Chambers, Q.C., and Mr. Day, for the defendant.

The plaintiff was a solicitor, and he was also clerk to the board of guardians at Amersham, and the defendant was the publisher of the *Buckingham Guardian*. The plaintiff was elected clerk to the guardians in the spring of this year. There were two elections, but the first one was held void, in consequence of an informality. Some letters appeared in the defendant's paper, commenting upon the election, and complaining that such elections were controlled by *ex officio* guardians and those they influenced, as against the elected guardians. The plaintiff, in his declaration set out three passages from three letters, and claimed damages for them as libels. They were in these terms: "They must go to put in the favourite, however incompetent." "The influence of one man sufficed to turn the tables in favour of the sycophantic candidate." "Is it because of merit or fitness for the office, or is it because of a peculiar suppleness about the neck and knees; certain bowing and cringing qualities which may have been or may yet be more serviceable to his patron than the ratepayers?"

Mr. M. Chambers called no witnesses for the defence, but contended that the alleged libels were fair comments upon a public matter.

Mr. Justice Smith, in summing up, said that the election of a clerk to a board of guardians was undoubtedly a public matter upon which a newspaper might fairly comment, and make observations upon the way in which the election was conducted, and upon the general fitness of the candidates for the office, provided that the writer did not descend to matters of private character, and was not actuated by malice. The jury must look at all the circumstances, say whether in their opinion the statements complained of were libels, and if so what amount of damages the plaintiff was entitled to. The jury at once found for the defendant.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—NOVEMBER 18.

(Sittings in Banco, before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE and Justices BLACKBURN, MELLOR, and LUSH.)

HINSON V. THE "NORTH MIDDLESEX CHRONICLE."

IN this case a rule had been obtained on behalf of Hinson, charged with the Wood-green murder, calling upon the printer and publisher of the *North Middlesex Chronicle* to show cause why a criminal information should not be filed against him for libel.

Dr. Kenealey said, that since the service of the rule upon the defendant he had published *verbatim* the affidavits filed on behalf of Hinson, denying the charges contained in the article complained of, as well as a retraction and apology; and under the circumstances he moved the discharge of the rule, with costs.

Mr. McIntyre, for the defendant assented.

Rule discharged, with costs.

MADDICK V. BEETON.

MR. H. James, Q.C., showed cause against a rule, calling upon the defendant to show cause why he should not answer certain interrogatories by way of an appeal from the decision of Mr. Justice Willes at chambers, who had refused to make an order for their being answered. The action was for misrepresentation to the defendant's knowledge in the sale of the *Illustrated Sporting and Theatrical News*, that the circulation at the time of the sale averaged 8,500 per week, and the advertisements £13 per week. The learned counsel contended that the interrogatories should not be allowed, on the ground that the plaintiff could prove as well as the defendant whether the statement was made to him. It appeared to be an attempt to cross-examine the defendant before he went into the witness-box.

The Lord Chief Justice said it might be that the defendant would not go into the box.

Mr. James.—And it might be that the plaintiff did not wish to give evidence.

The Court, however, made the rule absolute for answering the interrogatories, except the one asking when, if at all, the defendant purchased the copyright, of whom and what he gave for it.

Rule granted accordingly.

NOVEMBER 23.

ALLINGTON V. ELLIOTT AND OTHERS.

In this case, which was an action for libel against the proprietors of a publication called the *Echoes*, tried before the Lord Chief Baron at Kingston, and in which a verdict was found for the plaintiff—damages £500, Mr. Hawkins, Q.C., moved early in the term for a rule nisi for a new trial, on the ground that the damages were excessive.

The Court having taken time to consult the Lord Chief Baron, Mr. Justice Lush said there would be a rule, unless the plaintiff consented to reduce the damages to £250.

Rule granted.

NOVEMBER 23.

THE QUEEN V. WELLS.—LIBEL.

Mr. Watkin Williams said he appeared on behalf of Mr. Wells, the proprietor of the *Salisbury Times*, against whom a rule for a criminal information had been granted for libel, at the instance of Earl Radnor, to express his deep regret to his lordship and the Court for the publication of the article in question. The article was founded on a debate which took place in the House of Commons, and on the speech of Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P. for Leicester, relative to the committal of two children for a month for stealing greens. It commented severely on Earl Radnor, and the substance of the libel appeared to be that the writer left Earl Radnor with the hope that he would realise to the full the hatred with which the public regarded him, and never return to sit upon the bench again.

The Solicitor General, who appeared in support of the rule, said the article contained much stronger language.

Mr. Watkin Williams said he thought what he had quoted was bad enough. The Lord Chief Justice said the article contained observations which went far beyond a comment on the particular case, and which were very derogatory to the noble earl's general conduct.

Mr. Watkin Williams said he thought what he had quoted was bad enough, but probably there were other remarks which went beyond it. The defendant, who was of course responsible for what appeared in his paper, deeply regretted the insertion of the article, and he wished to make every reparation to the noble earl. The article, which was inserted without his cognisance, was written by the sub-editor, who reported the proceedings before the magistrates. The defendant had since published an apology, in which he had retracted in the fullest manner the offensive remarks complained of—that he had no public or private antipathy to the noble earl, and that the writer had for some time ceased to be connected with the paper. The defendant most unreservedly now publicly apologised to Earl Radnor for what had happened, that there was no ground for the article, and that he deeply regretted its publication.

The Solicitor General said Earl Radnor had no other desire than to vindicate his character. As a magistrate and a nobleman, he could not allow the article to pass without taking public notice of it, and as the defendant had apologised and retracted the libellous words in the fullest manner possible, his lordship would withdraw from further proceedings on the rule being discharged with costs.

The Lord Chief Justice.—Certainly.

Rule discharged with costs.

NOVEMBER 24.

FURNE V. SHIMMIN.

In this case a rule had been obtained, calling upon Mr. Shimmin, printer and publisher of a paper called the *Porcupine*, published in Liverpool, to show cause why a criminal information should not be filed against him for libel. The libel complained of was contained in an article published in the *Porcupine*, headed "Marine Coal Scuttling," and stated how ships might be lost without creating suspicion in order to defraud the underwriters. Reference was made to an inquiry by the Board of Trade into the loss of the *Golden Fleece*, which resulted satisfactorily to the owners, and the manner in which that was incorporated and treated in the article formed the libel complained of. The defendant disclaimed any intention to apply the article to the applicant, and in a subsequent No., after proceedings had been threatened, but before the rule was applied for, another article appeared, explaining that the alleged libel had reference to the constitution of the court of inquiry, and not in the least to the circumstances under which the *Golden Fleece* was lost. Not one of the hypothetical cases put applied to the *Golden Fleece*.

Rule absolute.

SIR JOSEPH HAWLEY appeared at Bow-Street on the 20th ult. to prefer a charge of libel against Dr. Shorthouse, editor, and Mr. Farrah, publisher of the *Sporting Times*, there having appeared in that paper an article in which the sporting baronet was designated Sir Joseph Scratchawley, and accused him of entering horses for the Liverpool Cup, and then scratching them for his own benefit to the loss of the backers. Sir Joseph having been sworn, stated that neither himself nor any one commissioned by him had any bet upon the horses in question. The defendants were committed for trial. A similar charge was made against Mr. Gilbert Robins, solicitor, residing at Rathcoole, Hornsey, as the writer of a libellous article in the *Man About Town*, and he also was committed for trial.

AN application was made in the Dublin Court of Common Pleas on the 12th ult., to consolidate several actions taken against Major Knox, proprietor of the *Irish Times*, for having published in his paper, in the course of business, advertisements offering compromise of a felony. Chief-Justice Monahan ordered the exactions to be consolidated into one, and the defendant, a person named Bramble, to pay the costs of the motion. One of the advertisements, which is a specimen of the rest, is as follows:—"Strayed, on the evening of the 7th inst., on the East Pier, Kingstown, a small black Labrador dog; answers to the name of 'Nelson.' The reward will be given on bringing the dog to either 13, Royal-terrace West, or 3, Great Charles-street, and no questions asked."

"*BLOANE V. KNOX*" is an action for slander alleged to have been spoken by Major Knox, the proprietor, against the sub-editor of the *Irish Times*.

Home Subjects.

The FIRST number of a new Civil Service paper, called the *Civilian*, appeared on Saturday, the 27th ult.

A NEW Wesleyan organ is to come out with the new year, called the *Methodist World*. It will appear monthly, with John Wesley's words for its motto, "The World is my Parish."

M. PREVOST PARADOL, the distinguished French journalist, has met with a most brilliant reception on his visit to this country.

MR. A. RUSSELL, editor of the *Scotsman*, was present at the opening of the Suez Canal, by invitation of the Khedive.

MR. JAMES IRVING SCOTT, late of the *Reporter*, and of the *London Mirror* (insurance and joint-stock company organ), is to bring out a new paper early in the year, under the title of the *Round Table*.

A NEW halfpenny daily paper was started at Middlesborough-on-Tees on the 8th ultimo, called the *Middlesborough Telegraph*.

MR. HOLMES, many years printer and part proprietor of the *Athenæum*, has disposed of his share to Sir Charles Dilke, who now owns the entire property.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE is to have two new weekly papers—one the *Ashton Courier*, in the Conservative interest, and the *Ashton Standard*, to advocate High Church tenets.

ANOTHER "comic" paper has made its appearance, with the ridiculous title of *Comic Opinion*.

It is commonly reported that Mr. John Morley, the late editor of the *Morning Star*, is the new editor of the *Daily News*.

A NEW paper was started not long ago, the first No. of which contained a letter from a correspondent, who signed himself "A Constant Reader."

THE offices of the Press Association, Limited, and of the Provincial Newspaper Society, were, on the 23rd ult., removed to 7, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street.

GRANTHAM.—A new weekly newspaper, price one penny, is about to be started at Grantham, under the management of Mr. D. B. Kelliher, late of the *Grantham Journal*.

A NEW weekly periodical, entitled *Social Economy*, the organ of the International Working Men's Association, is about to appear. It will be published simultaneously in Paris, London, Germany, and New York.

On the reporters on Tuesday last presenting themselves for admission to the Flint Town Council, they were informed by the clerk that a resolution to the effect "That reporters be not admitted to our Council" had been carried.—*North Wales Chronicle*.

It is with great regret we have to announce the death of Mr. G. Waters Banks, who had been on the reporting staff of the *City Press* from its commencement, and who was much respected. He had been ailing a considerable time, but his duties were not relinquished until about a fortnight ago. He died on Friday morning, at his residence, 111, Camberwell-road, at the age of 42.

WARRINGTON.—Mr. Thomas Robinson, who was for five years manager of the *Warrington Guardian* and its six district papers, sends us copies of the first three Nos. of his *Mid Cheshire Examiner*, just started, and also of his *Warrington Examiner*, first published April 24th, and the *Runcorn and Widnes Examiner*. They are all very creditable specimens, but why has Mr. Robinson departed from the wholesome custom of numbering?

"A GREAT WHIG JOURNALIST."—Under this head there appeared in "Blackwood's Magazine" for October, an exhaustive paper on the career of Daniel De Foe as a newspaper writer, and more especially on the recent discovery of his duplicity as editor of *Mist's Journal*, referred to in the September No. of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*.

"BELL'S LONDON NEWS" is the title of a new weekly penny paper started on November 6th. The material and the matter are of a very inferior quality and character, several columns being devoted to serial tales, and the first page decorated (!) by two coarse "cuts" of Blackfriars Bridge and the Holborn Viaduct.

A REVIEWER AT FAULT.—As a rule, it may be observed that of all blunderers, no one beats at blundering your smart, flippant reviewer. One of the most amusing instances of this was a review in the *Athenæum* of a book entitled somewhat fancifully "Egypt," published by Tweedie, in the Strand. The writer of it, like Mr. Banting, suffered from an unpleasant excess of corpulence. Somehow or other he had managed to reduce it, and, delighted at his deliverance from bondage, and anxious to communicate to others in similar circumstances the way of escape, he published his book. Actually the *Athenæum* reviewer referred to it as a book on Egypt—one of the many written by travellers not worth reading. Is it not true that in many cases a critic when he is, as he thinks, exposing others, is but exposing himself?—*Literary World*.

THE *Illustrated London News* is to have a formidable rival. A new high-class illustrated paper is to be brought out in the first week of the

present month under the title of the *Graphic*, edited by Mr. Sutherland Edwards, and its artistic staff numbers Mr. Armitage, A.R.A., Mr. Faed, R.A., Sir F. Grant, P.R.A., Mr. W. P. Frith, R.A., &c. The engraving is entrusted to Mr. W. L. Thomas. The *Graphic* is to be notable both for its literary and artistic excellence.

THE "LITTLE VENTILATOR."—We have received two Nos. (16 and 17) of a very diminutive weekly sheet (the smallest we ever saw) bearing the above title. It is issued gratis by Mr. Brabner, of 180, Kingsland-road, who writes us: "It was commenced solely to advertise my printing business, but, being appreciated in the district, is now continued, and may eventually be enlarged and charged for." The contents are so well written that we hope it may be.

PEOPLE who start local newspapers should take care to fill their columns with local news. We were shown a paper last week, published as a local organ, not many miles from where Hick's Hall formerly stood, in which there was only one single paragraph of local news. It was a dummy paper—that is, a paper entirely made up of paragraphs and town talk, and leaders and articles that do duty elsewhere. In London there are four places at the least where such papers are constructed. A local heading is put to them, a few local advertisements appear in them, and, as they are got up with, comparatively speaking, very little expense, they are started in almost every town—we were going to add, village. They are the bane of old-established local newspapers, and are the despair and terror of sub-editors of daily papers, and newsmongers in general.—*Literary World*.

MR. BRIGHT AND THE "MORNING STAR."—Mr. Justin M'Carthy has written a note to the editor of the *New York World* to correct a statement which appeared in that paper, to the effect that the late London *Morning Star* had "lost much of its influence recently, because of Mr. Bright having ceased to contribute certain leading articles which used to appear every Monday, and which gave the *Star* a power it could not otherwise have had." Mr. M'Carthy says that "Mr. Bright never wrote leading articles or any other articles for the *Star*," and that, although "this is a statement which will surprise many people in London, as well as in New York, it is nevertheless strictly true." All that he did was to write two or three "mere statements of facts, or explanations of some generally misunderstood clause of some Parliamentary measure," and Mr. M'Carthy adds "that Mr. Bright would have felt something amounting almost to a conscientious objection to his assumption of the part of an anonymous political critic." But he also adds that "Mr. Bright's withdrawal from any connection with the *Star* must have affected its influence."

Notes and Queries.

* * Our readers will receive the Title-Page and Index to Vol. III. with the current No. Should they not do so, through any neglect of the newsman, they are requested to write to the Publisher. Annual direct Subscribers are respectfully reminded that their Subscriptions for the New Volume are due this day, in advance, and can be remitted in stamps to the Office, 11, Ave Maria-lane, London.

A. K. B.—The firm are notorious swindlers, and never pay for their advertisements. How often are we to impress upon newspaper proprietors that they should refuse all offers that do not fulfil the requirements:

1st. Of coming through a recognised London agent; or,
2nd. Of remitting the cash for the entire series in advance; or,
3rd. Of a well-guaranteed reference in London?

If you insert advertisements on any other arrangement you deserve to lose your money.

F. B.—Apply to us for one of our "private" forms, and trust to us for filling it up.

QUERY.—BELL is but a trading *soubriquet*—look to the imprimatur.

COMMON-PLACE BOOK.—We object, as a rule, to pandering to title-tattle tastes; but as your inquiry seems to be for a legitimate purpose, and we believe there has never been any strict *incognito* either observed or desired, we may reply that a common consent has given to Mr. Jeaffreson the credit of most of the reviews of books of fiction in the *Athenaeum*, whilst an equally general idea is prevalent that Dr. Lankester, the coroner, has of late years contributed some of the articles dealing with books in the special department which ordinary critics cannot be expected to be entirely conversant with. We do not pledge ourselves to the correctness of these "loud whispers," so you had better assure yourself of their truth before you "make a note of them."

D. M.—London: Morning papers, £2 8s. per week; evening papers, £2 3s. 6d. If by the piece: Morning Papers, 3s. 10d., Evening Papers, 3s. 7d. per galley. Manchester: Daily Newspapers, £2 per week; Brevier and Minion, 9d., Nonpareil, 9d. per 1000. Weekly Newspapers, 81s. per week; Brevier and Minion, 7d., Nonpareil, 8d. per 1000. At Liverpool the establishment prices are about the same, while the piece prices are a fraction higher than for Manchester. In Bristol and the neighbourhood: Daily papers—Establishment, 86s.; Weekly papers, 28s.

Obituary.

BANKS, G. WATERS, many years on the reporting staff of the *City Press*.
DRISCOLL, HENRY PEARCE, Q.C., at Montreal, October 28th. He was formerly editor of the *Montreal Herald*, and subsequently of the *Montreal Courier*.
FAWKNER, JOHN PASCOE, founder of the *Launceston Advertiser*, the *Port Philip Advertiser*, and the *Port Philip Patriot*, at Melbourne, September 4th, aged 77.
FORCADE, EUGENE, journalist, at Paris, November 6th, aged 49.
GOURDON, EDOUARD, at Neuilly, formerly editor of *La Patrie*, of Paris.
LUCAS, E. P., proprietor of the *Democrat*, Darlington, South Carolina, October 16th, of disease of the heart.
NETTEMET, ALFRED, many years contributor to the *Gazette de France*, at Paris.
TRAILL, THOMAS, editor of the *Dominican*, of Dominica.
WILLIAMS, CHARLES G., editor of the *Tioga* (Pennsylvania) *Democrat*, October 16th, at Wellsboro'.

BANKRUPTS.

GREGORY, GEORGE, Stourbridge, newspaper seller.
GETTIFEE, DANIEL ALFRED, Palace-street, Buckingham-Gate, journalist.
NORFOLK, WILLIAM JOHN FREDERICK, Liverpool, newspaper proprietor.
ROBERTSON, CHARLES JAMES, Fish-street-hill and Mile-end-road, advertising agent.
SWAN, WILLIAM THOMAS, Great Grimsby, newspaper proprietor.

PARTNERSHIP DISSOLVED.

BROOKE AND Co., Doncaster, newspaper proprietors.

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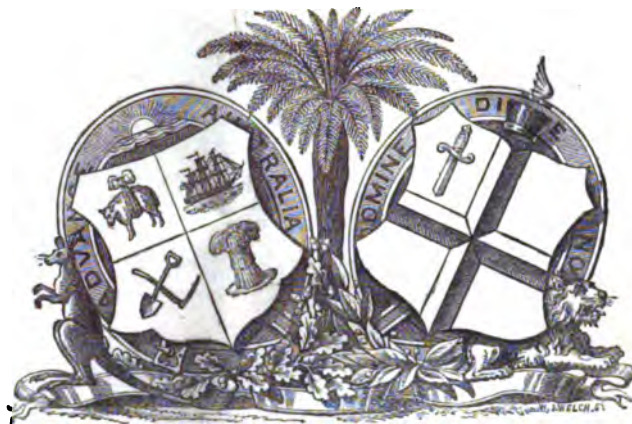
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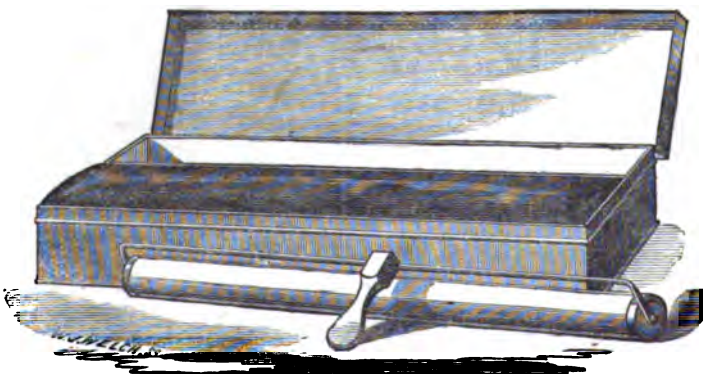
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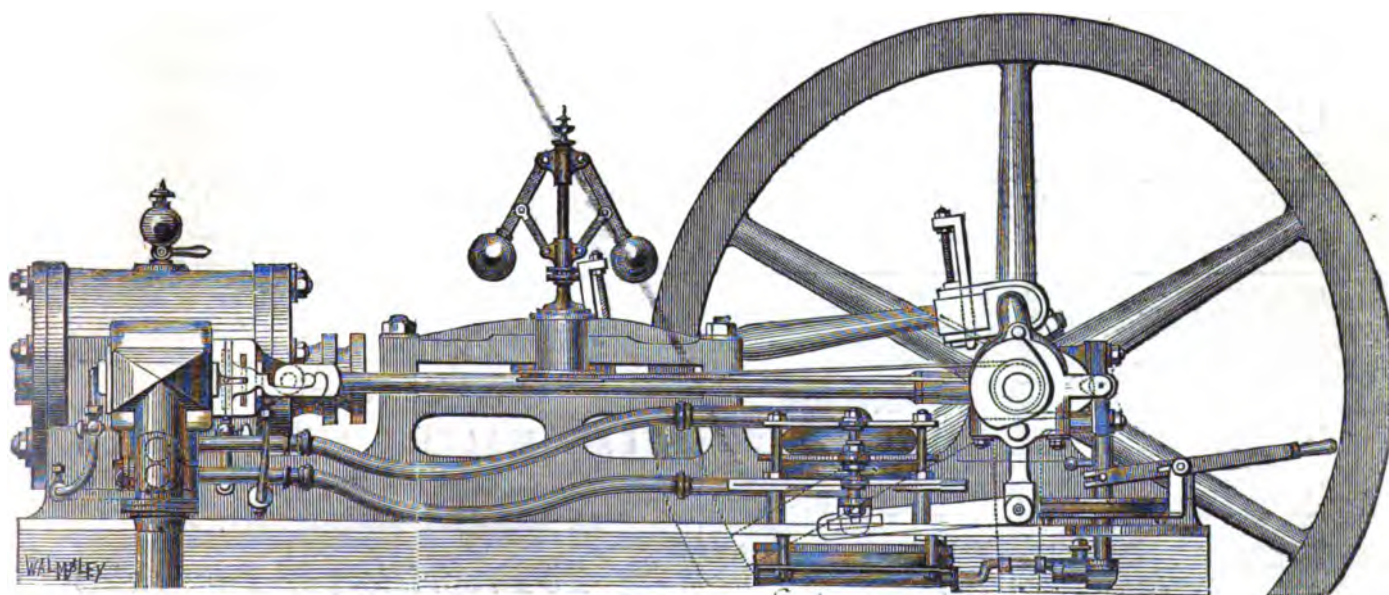
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If the great Conservative party have lost much of the influence, and do not possess the power which the position, wealth, and intelligence of its members would seem to confer on it, it has in a great measure its own high-handed treatment of the Press to thank for the depression under which its cause and its principles are labouring. The Conservative body for years persistently ignored the rising power of the Fourth Estate, and were so tardy in discovering what effective aid it could give to a political party, that, when they did partially open their eyes to the fact, they found the more powerful of the new engines of party warfare already in the hands of their opponents. From the days of the *Conservative Journal* to those of the *Imperial Review*, Conservative editors and proprietors will all tell the same tale—"We were not supported by our party—the Conservative chiefs gave us no encouragement." The idea of popularising Conservative principles through the means of a Cheap Press was almost scouted as absurd—the *Standard* halted in procrastinating steps between the old price and the new, and when it came down to a penny, it found the *Daily Telegraph* in advance of it. The late Frank Fowler started a penny *Weekly Mail* to teach Conservative views to the million, but none of the richer members of the party would help him through the trying first months, and he had to succumb, perhaps a wiser, and certainly a poorer, man. The *Blue Budget* is still fighting its way in the ranks of the cheap "weeklies," it is true, and probably the leaders of the party have at last discovered the full value of a cheap and popular Press; but, even if it be so, what headway they have lost!

The *Yorkshire Post* does not exaggerate the case in the following remarks on the literary inactivity of the party:—

"They remained insensible to the great importance of association and organisation, and what, perhaps, was not less damaging to their cause, they neglected their press. While Liberal associations kept together the motley crowd of their party, Conservatives depended too much upon their own unity of principle. While Liberal journals, well supported, disseminated the views of which they were the organs, throughout the country, the Conservative press, feebly encouraged, if not actually discouraged, appealed only to a comparatively limited circle, and struggled painfully for existence."

Our contemporary discerns a better state of things; and in the interests of the Press, apart from those of party, we trust he is correct in his observation, and that the Conservatives do now "recognise the value of the Press."

"At the same time," adds the writer, "we would frankly tell our supporters that they have still much to do before they can be regarded as worthy rivals of their Liberal opponents. It is to the confidence they have placed in their newspapers, and the increased efficiency which, by aid of different kinds, they have helped to give to those journals, that the Liberals owe very much of their power and influence."

We are all excusably anxious to believe that the morals of the age are improving, but, too often, we fear, the wish is parent to the thought. Old vices crop up now and again under new guises and altered circumstances, but they are among us still, although perhaps less obtrusive to ordinary observation. They are scotched, not killed, and we are not over sanguine that we can get farther than keeping them pretty well out of sight.

In the course of the excellent article which appeared in the new year's number of the *Athenæum* we are told that the class of infamous publications of which *The Town*, *Paul Pry*, *Sam Sly*, *Peter Spy*, and the *Wasp* were the most prominent, "are gone for ever, and no publications of their kind are now in existence;" but while these hopeful words were being written, the type was being set up of a successor to these ghoulia of the Press, and on January the 14th appeared the first number of *The Ferret*, "conducted by Peter Spy," containing almost all the most objectionable features of *The Town*, wrapped in the flimsy pretence of a censorship of public morals, and illustrated by a coarse and indecent cut of a style inferior in execution, but scarcely worse in taste than a more expensive publication has for the last twelve months or more made us acquainted with. We suppose there are fools of all grades—"fast" snobs as well as shopboy snobs—who purchase such trash; but, in point of size alone, to say nothing of quality, *The Ferret* is a very dear pennyworth.

THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PRESS.

III.—THE COUNTRY EDITOR.

Of all the varieties of the editorial genus, the Country Editor is 'best known. He is not an abstract being like his London compeer, comparatively unknown except to his familiars. He is a visible embodiment of a press-man, known to all, approachable by all; and he has to bear no little of the inconveniences as well as the blessings of his position. His influence may not be as vast as his metropolitan brother; it is no less potent within the sphere in which his paper circulates. When the Country Editor possesses, as he does in the majority of instances, a little of the true editorial sagacity and training, his position is rather to be envied than feared. The local magnates consult him. If his paper is one of the old county journals, he is not unknown to the lord lieutenant. The mayor and magistrates of the borough bow affably to him as he passes. At all the public parties he is sure of an invitation. At the "first meet of the season" you will find him at breakfast; and when a dinner is given to the "M. F. H.," he is there also. At concerts and entertainments he is expected to be present, for there exists an unlimited faith in his power of work, and in his judgment on things musical and dramatic. When the town or country is agitated by some momentous event, such as a new harbour, market, or the enclosure of some waste lands, great efforts are made to enlist his advocacy on one side or the other. He is deluged with arguments. Neutral he cannot be; and if he proclaims his judicial office, it is disregarded, and the bias of his articles or remarks ranks him as a partisan in the minds of those who take an interest in the subject. But at a general election his course is clear. His paper has a distinct side to take, and has already won or lost a score of electoral battles.

The Country Editor of a generation back differed materially to the gentlemen who hold the position now. Except in a few instances, the whole or the major part of the reporting fell to his lot. He was his own sub-editor, and frequently the reader too.

Some assistance he obtained in police cases, and in reading, from a clerk or one of the compositors; but, as a rule, the weight of the paper rested on his shoulders alone. This multiplicity of offices brought him into contact with persons of every degree, and gave him a standing which was enviable or not, according as he made friends or enemies. The work itself was not heavy. Long reports were not in fashion. Numberless paragraphs of local occurrences. A column of foreign news. A little more of cullings from London and local papers. Sometimes half a column of leading matter, and a mass of district correspondence, which had to be altered, arranged, and sometimes rewritten, from the contributions of the contributors in every village in the district. Occasionally he went himself to the important meetings, but as a rule, the local correspondent was equal to the occasion. Space was valuable, and time still more so, until the publishing hour arrived, when the fagged editor too frequently had to assist in the folding and franking of the journal in which his week's labours had been spent. If he did not do this regularly, he waded through the columns again to see if there were any omissions or glaring blunders, which could be rectified ere the whole issue was printed.

Such was the life of numbers of clever men a generation ago. Robert Nichol is an instance in point. He brought out the *Leeds Times* and raised its circulation immensely. He was to the subscribers the embodiment of the paper. Occasionally we may find the combination of offices extant even now on the small penny country papers, but the class of men who now do the work are as a rule of a very different stamp to the literary acolyte, who filled the office of old to gain the necessary experience to fit him for the more valuable prizes of his profession. Yet these men do valuable work even now, and are too frequently indifferently remunerated.

The changes in the newspaper world have changed the position of the modern Country Editor. We find a higher tone, more general literary ability and power of thought than of yore. The Country Editor of to-day has been relieved of the drudgery of the office. The staff has been increased and the duties subdivided. We find many literary men of standing holding these positions as an adjunct to their other labours. Some of them have had a London experience and have been obliged to retire from the enormous competition and brain wearing work of the metropolis. These do not make the best editors of country newspapers. They are beaten by the possibly less brilliant but hard working reporter, who has fought his way up through every rank of his profession until he has secured for himself a well earned position, and an amount of literary experience which will serve him in good stead and possibly land him as a proprietor of a country, or as the editor of a metropolitan journal of standing. Such men as these are hard to be got, but experience proves that they are the Country Editors required. Their varied experience on different journals and in various parts of the United Kingdom have given breadth to their views and power to their illustrations, which raises their productions from the slough of petty provincialisms. They are of a different generation to the immortal Potts of Eatonsville, or of Little Pedlington. They will make their mark on the mind of the future, and prepare the way for the higher intellectual standard of the promised Britain before us.

The qualifications of a Country Editor are mentioned in an old song to be

"Learned, yet practical—he must unite
Natural talent with science,—
Those, with that which can alone keep him right,
Judgment well worthy reliance.

"He must always be able to crack a good joke,
And ready to tell a new story—
Know all the authorities, Camden and Coke,
The Stud-book—and Sir Peter Laurie."

Sir Peter must be taken as an embodiment of the "great unpaid," which require a great deal of knowing and managing on the part of the conductor of the provincial newspaper, whether in town or country. These qualifications are required still, though the fear of offending subscribers is dying out. Greater literary ability is demanded, and though we shall never possibly have great scholars to edit the country journals, for the prizes of the position are not worth their notice, still we may fairly hope to see the improvement that has commenced continue to progress.

There has been a new variety of Country Editor arisen of late years, who forms an intermediate link between the London and provincial editor, who is likely to exercise considerable influence in the future. The editor of the provincial daily is a very different being to the Country Editor. He is closely allied to the American editor, in the fact that his position and influence bring him personally into contact with the people and with politicians so often, that he is never likely to be forgotten in the hurry and turmoil of politics. There have been indications that these editors are resolved to strive for place and power. Their lights are made to shine before men, and if we may judge from the signs of the times we shall see some of them using their experience and knowledge in parliament before long. Already we have two or three newspaper proprietors at St. Stephen's, and we shall have more than one Country Editor also, as the politician and writer is abstracted from the mere newspaper man of the past. It is evident that there will soon be a marked change in the social position of the Country Editor, which, after all, is in a most anomalous position. He will secure to himself a share of the profits of his labour. People will become impressed with, and follow the writer, as in America. The drudgery and mere servitude of the Country Editor is rapidly drawing to a close. One generation has witnessed a marvellous change in his position. The next will show him as the centurion of the people, not only embodying their abstract opinions in leading articles, but representing them in parliament, becoming not only the expositor, but the maker of the law. He will have a new patent of nobility.

"For noble the man among noble men,
Who fears not to ply a truth-telling pen,
For God and for human right!"

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

NO. XV.—MILITARY DISCIPLINE.

THE Court of Queen's Bench has lately decided that a military person cannot maintain an action against his superior officer, in respect of anything done by such superior officer in the discharge of his military duty, but must follow the special mode of redress pointed out in the Articles of War. The question arose in the case of *Dawkins v. Paulet*, being an action by Lieutenant-Colonel Dawkins, lately of the Coldstream Guards, against Major-General Lord F. Paulet, who held the command of the brigade; and it was in respect of letters written by him, to the Adjutant-General, as to the conduct or capacity of the plaintiff. In those letters, the plaintiff was represented as incompetent in the field, and unfit to conduct the business of a battalion in barracks, and it was requested that his conduct might be referred for investigation to a court of enquiry; it being finally submitted that an officer who had shown such want of judgment, tact, and temper, as was alleged against the plaintiff, was not fit to be entrusted with the responsibility and charge of a command. It was complained in the declaration, that by reason of the matters alleged, the plaintiff had lost his commission, and had been compelled to leave his regiment, and had suffered in his reputation as an officer. As an answer to the action, the defendant pleaded, in substance, that he, being the commanding officer of the regiment in which the plaintiff was a captain, and the plaintiff having written a letter to the Adjutant-General, complaining of an order given by the defendant as such commanding officer, and having, conformably to military regulation, sent such letter to the defendant, to be by him forwarded to the Adjutant-General, it became the duty of the defendant, in transmitting the letter, to accompany it with a report on the order complained of, with such observations as the circumstances of the case appeared to require; and that it thus became necessary, as a part of the duty of the defendant, to report on the incompetency and unfitness of the plaintiff; also, that the matter complained of was contained in a report thus made in the course of the defendant's duty as such commanding officer, and on fulfilment of such duty, and not otherwise, or for any other reason. To this plea there was a

replication, that the words complained of were written and published by the defendant of actual malice, and without any reasonable, probable, or justifiable cause, and not *bona fide*, or in the *bona fide* discharge of the defendant's duty, as alleged. To this replication, there was a demurrer, by which the defendant, for the purpose of these proceedings, in order to raise the question of law, admitted that the averments of the replication were true, that is, that the representations as to the plaintiff were made dishonestly, maliciously, and without a belief in their truth.

The plaintiff's points were, first, that the defendant published the letters of actual malice, without any reasonable, probable, or justifiable cause, and not *bona fide* in the discharge of his duty; secondly, that notwithstanding the circumstances mentioned in the plea, the action was maintainable for the publication of the letters complained of, the same being admitted to have been published of actual malice. It was also contended, that it being admitted by the plea that the publications complained of were false and malicious, the circumstances set forth in the plea constituted no answer to the action. The defendant's points were, that the motives of an act done in the strict course of military duty, and under the obligation of military discipline, were not examinable in a court of law; that the letters complained of related solely to the military capacity and qualifications of the plaintiff, and were written in the course of military duty, and that no action could be maintained by one officer in the army against another in respect of any loss of military status or position, resulting from an act of military duty. It was also contended that the only remedy, if any, in such a case, was to proceed under the Articles of War.

The case was argued in Trinity Term last, before the Lord Chief Justice, England, Mr. Justice Mellor, Mr. Justice Lush, and the late Mr. Justice Hayes. It stood over for consideration from the month of June to the month of December last, and as the court were divided in opinion, the surviving judges delivered their opinions *seriatim*.

The Lord Chief Justice, in delivering his opinion, said:—"The demurrer admits the averments of the replication to be true; in other words, that the representations as to the plaintiff were made dishonestly and maliciously, and without a belief in their truth. To support the demurrer, therefore, it is necessary to maintain, that in matters relating to military authority or discipline a subordinate officer is entirely at the mercy of his superior, so far as the remedy by a civil action is concerned, and that, though the proceedings against him are without right or reason, and upon charges which are known to be false, and which cause consequences of the most disastrous character, he is not entitled to demand redress in a court of law. I am not prepared to arrive at a conclusion so startling and apparently so dangerous." The learned Lord Chief Justice adverted to the judgment of Lord Mansfield in the well known case of "Sutton v. Johnstone," which came before the courts of law in 1795, in an action against the then defendant for having, as the plaintiff's commanding officer, maliciously, and without reasonable cause, brought the plaintiff to a court martial for breach of duty and disobedience to orders; and the principle question which arose was, whether the action could be maintained by an inferior against a superior officer, and whether the facts on which the defendant acted, showed reasonable cause for so doing. Lord Mansfield, on that occasion, said it was essential to the efficiency of the army that obedience to orders should be enforced, and that the energy of commanding officers in giving such orders on occasions of emergency, and in enforcing obedience by court-martial, and by the infliction of punishment for disobedience, according to military law, should not be crippled by the apprehension of vexatious actions, especially as juries were incompetent to form a judgment upon matters of a military or naval nature, and might arrive at conclusions different from those of military or naval tribunals fitted to determine them. And if any of those who had submitted to military law had suffered injustice, they must be content with the redress to be afforded by military authority. "Yielding to no one," said the Lord Chief Justice, "in respect for Lord Mansfield, this reasoning fails to satisfy my mind. I cannot bring myself to believe that officers would hesitate to give the orders which a sense of duty might demand from any vague or idle apprehensions of being 'harassed by vexa-

tious actions." Men worthy of command would do their duty, fearless of consequences, and would trust to the firmness of judges, and the honesty of jurors, to protect them from liability from acts done honestly, though, perhaps, erroneously, under a sense of duty. While no man would more strenuously uphold military authority when legitimately exercised, or would more earnestly urge upon juries the propriety of presuming everything in favour of its legitimate exercise, and of requiring cogent and conclusive evidence of its abuse, in order to entitle an officer to recover in an action at law against his superior, I cannot bring myself to think that it is essential to the well-being of the military or naval forces of the country that when authority has been intentionally abused, where charges are preferred which to the knowledge of the party preferring them are unfounded and unjust, where misrepresentations are made, which the party making them knows to be slanderous and false, the party injured, whose professional prospects may have been ruined, and whose professional reputation may have been blasted, is to be told that the Queen's Courts, in a country whose boast it is that there is no wrong without redress, are closed against his just complaint. On the contrary, I cannot but believe that to a force so dependent upon voluntary augmentation it will be far more beneficial that all its subordinate members should know that, for intentional oppression and manifest wrong, leading to such consequences, disastrous to professional prospects or character, redress can be obtained in a civil tribunal. Neither can I believe that a jury under the direction of a judge may not be safely trusted with the decision of such cases. No doubt, upon matters of military discipline a military tribunal may not be better qualified to form a judgment, and when the question turns upon nice points of military tactics, a jury would be advised—and doubtless would act upon the advice—to presume in favour of military authority; but in cases of manifest wrong and malicious motive, no tribunal can be better qualified to form a judgment than a jury. I cannot feel the force of the argument that members of the army consent to be tried by the military law, and that because a superior making an unfounded charge is amenable to punishment by the military law, therefore he is to be tried only by the military tribunals of the country. It is true that he submits himself to military law, and therefore that, however much it may conflict with the civil law, he must be content to have the rights which military law affords. And if there were any prohibition in the military code whereby he was prevented from resorting to a court of law, that would put an end to the question. But there is no such prohibition. And I cannot but think that if the law is to be settled, that an action by an inferior against a superior officer, shall not be maintainable it should be done by legislative enactment, or at all events by a court of error.

Against this view of the Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Mellor, and Mr. Justice Lush delivered their opinions; and the late Mr. Justice Hayes, who, with the other judges, had heard the argument on the question, had, shortly before his death, prepared a similar opinion; the effect of the three opinions being that the replication was bad, and furnished no answer to the plea. Judgment was, therefore, entered for the defendant.

THE NATIVE PRESS OF INDIA.

WITH his accustomed courtesy, M. Garcin de Tassy has again sent us his opening address at the Imperial School of Living Oriental Languages, delivered at Paris on the 6th of December. It occupies thirty-eight pages, and is on the whole satisfactory in its report of social progress in the East. In the section which treats of the native periodical Press, we are informed that thirty journals have been added during the past year. Of these twenty are printed in Urdu, eight in Hindu, and of the remaining two we are not told in which language they appear. Three of those printed in Urdu are reproduced in Hindu. It may be necessary to explain that Hindu is confined almost to Sanscrit words, and is spoken mainly in the villages, whilst Urdu is a conglomerate of Arabic, Persian, Sanscrit, and other Eastern dialects, Portuguese, and even English; and is commonly called the "Camp" language. Hence its adoption by the newspapers of

more extended and general circulation. Thus, the Urdu *Aina-i'ilim* ("Mirror of Science,") a literary journal issued monthly at Allahabad, becomes in Hindu, the *Britant Darpan*; the Urdu *Nijm Ulakhbar* ("Star of News,") becomes the Hindu *Bidya Darsh* ("Manifestation of Science,") and the Urdu *Pāp mochan* ("Deliverance from Evil,") is reproduced in Hindu as the *Dharm Prakāśh* ("Manifestation of Religion,")

One journal in the list supplies the place of a paper which has ceased to appear—the *Atālie-i Panjab*, which is a new series of the *Sirkāri Akhbār*. Among the number of new papers we find literary and scientific journals, such as *Aina-i'ilim* ("Mirror of Science,") published monthly at Allahabad in both Urdu and Hindu; *Aina-i tibābat* ("Mirror of Medicine,") in Urdu; *Akhbār Sirischta-i ta'lim* ("News of the Department of Public Instruction,") in Urdu; *Atālie-i Panjab* ("The Schoolmaster of the Punjab,") *Bidya Darsh* ("Manifestation of Science,") a bi-monthly journal of Meerut, in Hindu with an Urdu edition; *Chasina-i'ilim* ("Sources of Science,") a bi-monthly paper in Urdu, published at Patna; *Gangina-i'ulām* ("The Treasury of the Sciences,") a monthly journal, published in Urdu, at Muradabad; *Gangina-i Akham* ("The Treasury of the Laws,") a monthly journal of jurisprudence also published in Urdu at Muradabad, and *Makhzan u'lulām* ("Treasury of the Sciences,") published monthly in Urdu, at Bareilly, under the auspices of the Literary Society of Rohilkhand. The remaining journals are devoted to general intelligence, except *Khair Ulmawā-iz* ("The better Counsel,") a weekly paper published at Delhi, for the purpose of refuting the doctrines of Christianity, and maintaining those of Islam; and *Mufid-i Anām* ("The Help to the Human Race,") a weekly journal in Urdu published at Fathgarh, for the opposite purpose of converting women to Christianity. The natives have a *News of the World* among their indigenous papers, but our readers, unlearned in Hindu, would fail to recognise it in *Jagad Samāchar*, published weekly at Meerut, and started in May of last year.

THE "PENNSYLVANIA JOURNAL" OF 1765.

THE Stamp Act came in force in America, on the 1st of November, 1765, and on the previous day, No. 1195 of the *Pennsylvania Journal and Weekly Advertiser* made its appearance with a deep mourning border. Above the title was a rude cut of a Death's head and cross bones, supported on each side by a pickaxe and shovel crossed, and beneath the title between deep black lines, the words "EXPIRING; in hopes of a Resurrection to LIFE again." In the left hand top corner was a mourning square, containing the words, "The TIMES are Urrabful, Dismal, Griefful, Folorous, and Uollar-less," and in a similar compartment on the right hand corner was another Death's head and cross bones, surrounded by the words, "An Emblem of the effects of the Stamp, the fatal Stp.!" Down the right hand margin was printed, "Adieu, Adieu to the LIBERTY OF THE PRESS." The following doleful announcement appeared on the front page, the initial letter enclosed within a thick mourning border:—

"I am sorry to be obliged to acquaint my Readers that, as the Stamp Act is fear'd to be obligatory upon us after the First of November ensuing (the fatal To-morrow), the publisher of this paper, unable to bear the burthen, has thought it expedient TO STOP awhile, in order to deliberate, whether any Method can be found to elude the Chains forged for us, and escape the insupportable Slavery; which it is hoped from the last Representations now made against the Act, may be effected. Meanwhile, I must earnestly request every Individual of my Subscribers, many of whom have been long behind Hand, that they would immediately Discharge their respective Arrears, that I may be able not only to support myself during the Interval, but be better prepared to proceed again with the Paper whenever an opening for that Purpose appears, which I hope will be soon. WILLIAM BRADFORD."

AMERICAN PRESSMEN.—Unfortunately there are many men on the American Press who are not gentlemen in manners, tone of thought, or education. Doubtless there are many in England of whom the same may be said; but the difference is, that in the United States they assume a more prominent position, and succeed in forcing themselves more conspicuously to the front. All men in America are readers of newspapers, and the unrefined masses create a greater demand there for the productions of such persons.—*Anglo-American Times*.

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

XV.—THE MORNING HERALD.

AFTER an existence of ninety years, the *Morning Herald* issued its last number on the last day of 1869. It was established on the 1st of November, 1780, by the Rev. Henry Bate, who had been previously editor of the *Morning Post*; commonly known as "the bruising parson," and author of some eight or ten plays, long since forgotten. He was the son of a Worcester clergyman, was educated at Queen's College, Oxford, and for some time held the living of Farnbridge in Essex. Inheriting a large estate, he assumed the name of Dudley, and purchased the reversion to the living of Bradwell-Juxta-Mare, near Maldon, where it is said he expended twenty-eight thousand pounds on the restoration of the church, schools, and rectory house. But on the death of the rector, the bishop of the diocese refused to induct this political, duelling, and play-writing parson in his place, and he rashly entered into a law-suit, which lasted seven years, and cost the Rev. Bate Dudley, twenty-two thousand pounds. *Nimpoite*. The *Herald* had espoused the cause of the Prince of Wales; and his friends at court gave him the rich living of Kilcoran, and the chancellorship of the Diocese of Ferns, and, in 1812, the magic touch on the shoulder made him Sir Henry Bate Dudley, Baronet. He died at Cheltenham in 1824. We believe that Captain M'Donald succeeded him in the editorship of the paper, and John Taylor, the author of "Monsieur Tonson," and once editor of the *Morning Post*, appears also to have edited it; and William Radcliffe, the husband of Mrs. Radcliffe the novelist, was for a time its editor. But a better man succeeded them—Alexander Chalmers, the antiquary, son of Chalmers who founded the *Aberdeen Journal* (in whose family that journal still remains), and at once gave a tone and character to the paper. Among more recent members of the staff, writers, contributors, or reporters, we may recall the names of Henry Brougham, Dr. Maginn, Dr. Giffard, Sydney Taylor, Douglas Jerrold, Charles Phillips, Alarie Watts, Knox, and Gilbert Abbott à Beckett. The police reports were at one time a special feature of this journal, and were collected and reprinted under the title of "Mornings at Bow Street," whilst at a subsequent period, the correspondence of the special commissioner, Mr. Woods, from the Crimea (by some preferred to Mr. Russell's more florid letters to the *Times* from the seat of war), was also republished in two volumes, and had a large sale. The *Morning Herald* has been remarkable for the last thirty years for its consistent advocacy of High Tory principles. Its fidelity to its cause in the face of ridicule from those who shifted their principles with the caprices of public favour, was the cause of its decay. It was no trimmer—no time server; it nailed its colours to the mast, and died manfully under them. Differing as people may from its views, it is the thoughtless jester and lampooner, destitute of any fixed principles, who alone will cast professional ridicule over the honourable way in which it sacrificed itself for the cause which it had consistently advocated. For many years the *Morning Herald* was the property of the late Mr. Baldwin, but, some time ago, came, with the *Standard*, with which its interest is now amalgamated, into the hands of Mr. Johnstone and others. We must allow it to plead its last justification against the attacks that were somewhat recklessly made against it:—"Everybody knows, of course, that of late years the *Morning Herald* has been identified by the Liberal press with all that is illiberal, bigoted, and reactionary. That is assertion, and nothing more, for a search through its columns at the time when Toryism was in the ascendant will certainly not prove it guilty of any extreme opinions. The *Morning Herald* supported Lord John Russell's Reform Bill with all the ability and zeal at its command. It advocated abolition of slavery when the success of that measure was by no means assured. We may claim with some pride that in these columns appeared the almost daily appeals to reason and the public conscience, which eventually redeemed this country from the stain of a code of punishment worse than Draconian in its severity. Lastly, it was in the columns of this journal that men like Richard Oastler, the real philanthropists and friends of labour, found their chief support in their efforts to emancipate the factory hand from his degrading

thralldom. On the question of the Corn Laws, it is true, the *Morning Herald* took what is called the illiberal side, as did the *Times* itself for several years, and undoubtedly its advocacy of Protectionist principles seriously damaged its popularity and diminished its prestige. Up to the time of the first great movement of the Anti-Corn Law League the *Morning Herald* was standing well in the race with its contemporaries. The *Times* alone could boast of a larger circulation or a wider influence, and there was a time, just subsequently to the passing of the Reform Bill of 1832, when even the supremacy of the *Times* seemed likely to be questioned. But Sir Robert Peel's desertion of his party in 1846 split up the Tory majority, which was practically a Protectionist majority, and the effects of the schism thus created were felt by the *Morning Herald*. In these days, ours is not the finger that shall be pointed in scorn at a long career of political consistency. Existence might have been prolonged by veering with every change in the breath of popular opinion, but the *Herald* preferred honour at the cost of suicide. We are not all Romans, and may not be inclined to follow the example, but few will be ungenerous enough to refuse it the credit it deserves.

G. H.

DINNER AT THE MANSION HOUSE, DUBLIN, TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESS.

On Monday evening, 25th Jan., the Right Hon. Edward Purdon, Lord Mayor of Dublin, entertained the members of the Metropolitan and Provincial Press at dinner in the Mansion House. The company included the following:—Sir John Gray, M.P., Dr. Maunsell, A. M. Sullivan, J. Scott, H. G. Henderson, John Cameron, R. O. Pringle, George Chamney, William S. Purdon, Edmond D. Gray, T. Crosbie, Cork; Thomas McKnight, Belfast; Richard Kelly, Tuam; George Wynne, Liverpool; M. Green, Wexford; S. N. Elrington, Wm. J. Henry, Town Clerk; George W. Bassett, Limerick; Ambrose Balfe, John Shields, King's Co.; J. McCombie, Coleraine; Thos. Butler, O'Connell Hackett, Clonmel; Wm. Thomson, J. McDougall, Galway; John Costelloe, Drogheda; E. T. Lefroy, Wm. McGarrahan, John Hill, John Giltrap, Michael Dwyer, George Langhin, Carlow; Mr. N. Robinson, J. Johnston Evans, Limerick; John O'Reilly, W. F. Kelly, John Norwood, Dr. Cameron, City Analyst; Jas. S. MacCarthy, Thos. J. Sullivan, T. J. McWeeny, John Inch, Philip Kearney, Wm. Johnston, James Waugh, G. K. Magee, W. W. Healy, A. Dunlop, George H. Smith, Westmeath; Alexander Raymond, Kerry; W. A. Bole, Mayo; Henry Coulter, Peter Roe, M. J. O'Connell, Carlow; A. Mackey, Wexford.

Amongst the above were representatives of the *Cork Examiner*, *Tuam Herald*, *Liverpool Mercury*, *Wexford Independent*, *Wexford Constitution*, *Limerick Chronicle*, *Limerick Southern Chronicle*, *Northern Whig*, *Galway Express*, *Drogheda Conservative*, *King's County Chronicle*, *Coleraine Chronicle*, *Tipperary Free Press*, *Drogheda Argus*, *Carlow Post*, *Carlow Sentinel*, *Leinster Express*, *Westmeath Guardian*, *Kerry Evening Post*, *Mayo Constitution*, &c. Besides members of the staff of each of the Dublin newspapers, about one hundred guests were present.

NEWSVENDORS' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—Charles Dickens, Esq., the president, will take the chair at the annual dinner in behalf of the funds of the Newsvendors' Benevolent and Provident Institution, at Freemason's Tavern, on the 5th of April.

ANOTHER NEW "ILLUSTRATED."—There seem to be signs of our being inundated with pictorial journals. Another new one is spoken of under the title of "*Pictures and News*."

THE "MORNING HERALD" made the following announcement on the 31st of December:—"With the close of this year the *Morning Herald* will cease to exist. After a career of 90 years, in which it may be said without affectation or boastfulness to have done some service to the State, to have honourably and consistently supported the principles to which it gave its advocacy, and on the whole to have studied and catered for the interests of its readers with liberality and energy, the *Morning Herald* takes its leave of the newspaper stage to-day." The *Morning Herald* has in fact become incorporated with the *Standard*.

THE "WORCESTER NEWS" (established in 1861) was, with the new year, absorbed into the *Worcestershire Advertiser* (established in 1865).

THE PARIS PRESS.

THE Madrid organ of the printing interest, *La Tipografía*, has lately published an article from its Paris correspondent on the newspapers of the French capital; from which we make the following extracts:—

It would be impossible even to enumerate all the organs of public opinion which are published in the city of Paris, where literature is so widely disseminated and the public demand for news and novelty is so unique. The following table includes all the most eminent newspapers; those that are omitted may be regarded either as the organs of so insignificant a party, or of so circumscribed a circulation, as to be undeserving of mention in a rapid review like the present.

NAME OF PAPER.	POLITICS.	ESTABLISH.	CIRC.
La Gazette de France	Legitimist	1631	7,500
Le Journal des Debats	Orleanist	1789	5,800
Le Moniteur Universel	Tiers parti	1789	10,500
Le Journal Officiel	Imperialist	1869	8,800
Le Constitutionnel	Tiers parti	1815	5,700
La Presse	"	1836	8,000
Le Siècle	Radical	1836	46,000
La Patrie	Imperialist	1841	11,500
L'Union	Legitimist	1847	8,000
Le Pays	Imperialist	1848	2,600
L'Opinion Nationale	Radical	1859	9,000
Le Monde	Catholic	1860	2,500
Le Temps	Radical	1861	11,000
La France	Imperialist	1862	9,000
L'Avenir Nationale	Radical	1863	5,000
La Liberté	Ultra-Liberal	1865	22,000
L'Univers	Catholic	1867	8,000
Le Public	Imperialist	1848	8,700
Le Peuple Français	"	1868	45,000
Le National	Radical	1868	40,000
L'Universel	Ultra-Liberal	1869	3,000
Le Figaro	Neutral	1860	45,000
Le Gaulois	"	1868	16,000
Le Paris	Ultra-Liberal	1868	4,000
Le Rappel	Republican	1868	35,000
Le Réveil	"	1869	30,000

Thus the sum total of copies printed by these twenty-six newspapers is 407,000
And of these there are remitted to the provinces, according to calculations based on authoritative returns 103,400

The balance, representing their circulation in Paris, is 303,600

It is, perhaps, worthy of notice, that there is a great disproportion between the number of these papers circulating in Paris and in the provinces, for the capital absorbs two-thirds of the circulation of each journal. The reason of this is to be found in the fact that in each large city in the provinces there are local papers specially devoted to the news of the particular district. The majority of the subscribers to these publications are people who possess certain definite political opinions—merchants and professional people; the public at large patronise the less serious and cheaper papers.

All, with slight differences, are printed on equal-sized sheets, and the type is similar to each. *Le Réveil*, for example, has six columns of 195 lines each, its three pages give a total of 1,894, and the fourth page is reserved for advertisements.

Almost all of them are evening papers, and they circulate in the provinces during the morning of the following day.

The sale of these papers is effected at the libraries, the kiosques, and by itinerant vendors, as well as at the private offices of each particular paper, and their general price is fifteen centimes.

The *National*, at the head office, is sold at five centimes, but to the majority of its subscribers it costs five centimes more, for the price of the stamp.

The Illustrated papers are, as a rule, published weekly, and their pictures represent the most exciting events of the time, and they are interspersed with numerous political and other caricatures.

The two principal illustrated papers are:—*L'Illustration*, founded in 1842, which prints 17,000 copies, and *Le Monde Illustré*, founded in 1857, whose circulation reaches 30,000.

These two periodicals, like the rest of their kind, consist of sixteen pages in folio, and appear every Sunday, constituting two volumes in the course of the year, each consisting of the half-year's numbers. They despatch to the provinces, it is calculated, at least one-third of their impression. But the journals which have the largest sale are the three following, which are published at five centimes each:—

Le Petit Journal, established in 1863, to which there cannot be a less circulation daily than 200,000 copies, although, on its own authority,

it sometimes reaches the number of nearly 262,000. Its speciality consists in its reports of judicial cases and in its local intelligence, which is, as a rule, admirably compiled.

La Petite Presse, commenced in 1865, publishes about 200,000 daily.

Le Petit Moniteur Universel, which has only been about a year in existence, reaches a circulation of 300,000.

These three papers are the favourite organs of the working-classes, both on account of the smallness of their price and the tone of their contents. Attached to each paper is a popular writer, many of them men of great eminence. Among the leading *litterateurs* are J. Grim, *Le Petit Journal*; Tony Révillon, *La Petite Presse*; Fonsan du Terrail, *Le Petit Moniteur Universel*.

There are numerous periodicals of a special class, such as *Les Bons Romans*, the *Journal de Jeudi*, etc., little papers of eight pages, which publish the last novels of Alexander Dumas, George Sand, Soulie, Dumas, Junr., Balzac, and other celebrated authors, both classical and contemporaneous. There is no doubt that the novel, or *feuilleton*, contributes materially to the sale of the latter papers, for the price is such that they are adapted for promiscuous sale at the news-vendors' and the kiosques.

In the composition and arrangement of a large journal a distinction is made between the body of the paper and the *feuilleton*, which occupies the foot of the page, and which is generally devoted to the theatre, the arts, criticism, romances, or reviews. In the body of the journal there is generally found, 1st, the local news (in Paris the *premier-Paris*); 2nd, a certain number of *entre-fillets*, small articles separated by rules, various news, domestic and foreign; then, if there be space, an analysis of the legislative sittings of judicial causes, of scientific or literary meetings. Frequently there is an article called *Varicities*, a sort of cheap dish, which is usually devoted either to the examination of some new work or other interesting subject connected with the peculiar province of the journal. There is placed last of all a statement of the public funds, the amusements, and the advertisements,—in many of the journals the whole of the fourth page is devoted to this last.

PERRY OF THE "MORNING CHRONICLE."

(From the *Life of Miss Mitford*.)

I HAVE just been reading Hazlitt's "View of the Stage"—a series of critiques originally printed in the different newspapers, particularly the *Chronicle* and the *Examiner*. * * * * * This amusement, great as it always would have been, was very much heightened to me by recollecting so well the first publication of the best articles—those on Kean in the *Morning Chronicle*. I was at Tavistock House at the time, and well remember the doleful visage with which Mr. Perry used to contemplate the long column of criticism, and how he used to execrate "the fellow's stuff" for filling up so much of the paper in the very height of the advertisement season. I shall never forget his long face. It was the only time of the day that I ever saw it either long or sour. He had not the slightest suspicion that he had a man of genius in his pay—not the most remote perception of the merit of the writing—nor the slightest companionship with the author. He hired him as you hire your footman, and turned him off for a very masterly but damaging critique on Sir Thomas Lawrence, whom Mr. P., as one whom he visited and was being painted by, chose to have praised. Hazlitt's revenge was exceedingly characteristic. Last winter, when his "Characters of Shakespeare" and his lectures had brought him into fashion, Mr. Perry remembered him as an old acquaintance, and asked him to dinner and a large party to meet him, to hear him talk, and to show him off as the lion of the day. The lion came, smiled and bowed, handed Miss Bentley to the dining-room, asked Miss Perry to take wine, said once "Yes" and twice "No," and never uttered another word the whole evening. The most provoking part of this scene was that he was gracious and polite past all expression, a perfect pattern of mute elegance, a silent Lord Chesterfield; and his unlucky host had the misfortune to be very thoroughly enraged without anything to complain of.

THE sub-editorship of the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Knox, has been filled by Mr. James Peddie, late on the staff of the *Dundee Advertiser*.

WE perceive that Messrs. J. M. Johnson and Sons, of Castle-street, Holborn, announce their intention of bringing out a new and cheap periodical, called the *Food Journal*, to be devoted entirely to the subjects of Food and Public Health.

LORD PALMERSTON AND THE REPORTER.

(From *Cassell's Magazine*.)

To the reporters of his public speeches he was always kind and considerate. One active gentleman, note-book in hand, had pursued him, on a particular occasion, hoping to find busy employment for his stylus, and would have been disappointed, but for the special good-nature of his patron. There were to be great doings at the presentation of colours to a volunteer corps, and Lord Palmerston having promised to give the affair his countenance, it was expected that he would give it also his voice, and make a speech worth some pains in the taking-down. To this end, a practised professor of stenography, as I have said, followed to the field the noble lord, and put himself in readiness for action. But the presentation of colours went off gaily enough, without speech-making; and when the ceremony was over Lord Palmerston buttoned his overcoat, and prepared, like the rest of the spectators, to depart. It was an awful moment. The desperate journalist went straightway to the great political lord, and said imploringly—

"Is not your lordship going to make a speech?"

"Why, no," said his lordship slowly; "I don't see that there's anything one can talk about." And then, turning suddenly to the reporter, he added the short encouraging question, "Do you?"

Upon which hint the gentleman with the note-book spake thus—"Oh, yes, my lord; I'm sure your lordship could easily find something to say that would look well in the papers. Do, now, my lord, be so kind, if I may beg it of you as a great favour. Just half a column or thereabouts."

"Very well, very well," said the accommodating Premier; and, advancing to the front of the little stage that had been erected for the beauty and fashion of the neighbourhood, he began to address the crowd who had turned to go, and who now turned again to listen.

"I cannot let this occasion pass away," his lordship began, "without trespassing a little on your time and patience for a few remarks," etc. etc.

Whatever the subject was, Lord Palmerston treated it in a speech so vivacious that nobody quarrelled with its length, although it was five or six times as long as "half a column or thereabouts." The fact, moreover, stands on record that that same speech was so remarkable an exposition of something or other, that every newspaper in England commented on it in a leading article, and it was the talk of clubs, coteries, and coffee-rooms for the full nine days which make up the life of a wonder.

ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPERS.

(From the *Illustrated Midland News*.)

SOME of our readers would be exceedingly surprised could they watch the progress of a local illustration from its commencement until its publication in the Illustrated Paper. In the first place the artist must make his sketch, then he, or a draughtsman having special experience of the subject, re-draws the sketch upon a prepared block of wood. He must define every detail with care and exactness. When his work is finished the wood holds a high-class drawing, such as might cost you in an ordinary way from five to fifty guineas. It has then to be engraved. Supposing the picture is a large one, the block is divided and placed in the hands of several engravers. They cut the wood with the sharpest of edge tools, into such a shape that the printer can take impressions from it. This process alone for a block the full size of one of our pages cannot be covered, in the most ordinary case, by an expense of less than twenty guineas. Twenty guineas for the mere engraving of a single picture! It is then far from ready to print. The practised machine-printer, with something of an artist's feelings for the lights and shadows of the drawing, next proceeds to prepare his block for the press. Special overlays and underlays, bearers for the lighter parts, strengthening coverings for the heavier shadows, have to be cut and carved and fitted. The whole process is one requiring the greatest care and judgment; and all this work is supplemented with the ordinary labours attending the publication of a newspaper.

TASTE REQUISITE IN NEWSPAPERS.

(From the *Proof Sheet*).

THE time has passed when "anything was good enough for a country paper," and many of our exchanges from inland towns compare favourably with those issued in the large cities. Quite a number, however, are gotten up without regard to style; depending wholly on the matter in their columns. The impression that the great public cares but little for the *appearance* of a great newspaper is by far too prevalent. Other things being equal, the best looking paper will have the largest circulation, and be most sought by advertisers. It is true that but few may be able to point out the details which make one paper look better than another; but each reader will feel excellence in style as surely as he will appreciate talent in the editorials. He may not know that this type or that type is best adapted to the purpose for which it is used; but he is impressed with the fitness of the whole.

It seems strange that there should be so many newspapers printed in an inartistic style, especially as the cost for indifferent or unsuitable material is as great as for that necessary to make a handsome paper. The only additional expense to be incurred is that which is requisite to maintain a proper arrangement of the matter; and this expense is not lost, since the work is done more rapidly when it has been settled *how* each division of the paper shall be arranged, and what type shall be used in each.

We ask, then, why not use the best newspaper type that is made? Why not adopt and enforce a fixed style for the arrangement of the matter? In short, why not print a handsome newspaper?

Correspondence.

THE LATE WILLIAM JERDAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

DEAR SIR,—In my letter, which you published in your September No., I promised to send you some extracts from my recent correspondence with Jerdan. On reference, I find they are of too private a nature to bear publication, or probably to be of interest. But in a letter to his daughter, Mrs. T. Irwin, dated August 12th, 1866, and printed in the *Leisure Hour*, he makes the following notes of his connexion with newspapers:

"My first appearance in print was in a Portsmouth paper, with some lines to Wilberforce, and for abolition of slavery. This was in 1864-5." Contributed to the *Aurora*, *Morning Post*, *Pilot* (as sub-editor), *British Press* (as reporter), *Sun*, edited the *Literary Gazette* from 1817 to 1850 (thirty-three volumes and above 1700 weekly issues).

"Edited *Tallis's Weekly Paper*, and wrote much for the *Kelso Mail*, the *London Review*, &c."

These are in addition to numerous contributions to monthly and quarterly magazines, and other periodicals not ranking with newspapers.

Yours faithfully,

A. A.

"THE ENGLISH MERCURIE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

DEAR SIR,—Again do I write to you in anger about this irrepressible impostor. He crops up *this* time in the *Solicitors' Journal*, in the following passage:—

"The first English newspaper, of which there are many copies in the British Museum, was the *English Mercurie*, published in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, 'imprinted at London, by her Highness's printer, 1588.'"

Still worse, the *Standard* quotes this paragraph—not headed by the words "Astounding Ignorance!" but as a grave matter of historical fact!

Yours truly,

S. L. J.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, January 25.

ALTHOUGH the important changes and other events that have already occurred here since New Year's Day, and which may correctly characterise 1870 as the beginning of a new era in France, belong more properly to the subject of Politics and History, yet they are for the most part so intimately connected with the Press that your journal would scarcely be perfect without containing a record of some of their chief features. Scarcely had the new year been ushered in when Paris was electrified by the astounding intelligence that France—Imperial France—was suddenly transformed into a Constitutional Monarchy, the Emperor having virtually abdicated the power, of which he hitherto held the reins, in favour of a Liberal Ministry. Whatever may have been the secret reasons that prompted him to take this important and now irrevocable step, whether he felt the weight of government becoming too heavy for his shoulders—for some years have now elapsed since he passed the grand climacterio—or whether with his wonderful sagacity he saw a storm brewing at a distance and thought the only way to save and perpetuate his dynasty was to make timely concessions of his own free will, certain it is that he has become more popular than ever, and obtained the applause and hearty support of the whole nation, with the single exception of the numerically small but still dangerous and fanatical party of the "Irreconcilables" or Red Republicans.

It is to be recorded with feelings of gratitude that hitherto no branch of the public service has received at the hands of the new Ministry so much consideration and courtesy as the Press; for though the Cabinet is by no means unanimous on the subject of free trade and the maintenance and renewal of the existing treaties of commerce, but one opinion prevails among the members as to the necessity of liberating the Press from the many trammels under which it has been languishing so long from the false policy adopted by the Emperor and his irresponsible advisers. And no wonder that this should be the case, when one considers that M. Emile Ollivier, the new Prime Minister, is and has been for many years one of the most eminent of the Liberal journalists of this city, and no one can be better acquainted than he is with the hitherto deplorable state of the Press, and the necessity for placing it on a more favourable and satisfactory footing. Moreover, in selecting for himself the Ministry of Justice as his special department in the new Cabinet, he has chosen the one for which, from his education and antecedents, he is most admirably fitted, and which places him *ipso facto* at the head of all the subaltern departments in any way connected with the affairs of the Press.

Nor can it be said that M. Ollivier has been letting the grass grow under his heels since he has been in office, but rather that he has already by his energy given such earnest of his measures for the alleviation of the Press as to inspire confidence in his future intentions for its further emancipation. One of his very earliest acts as Minister of Justice was to issue a circular to all the State Procurators and Public Prosecutors, instructing them to quash all legal proceedings that had been instituted against metropolitan and provincial newspapers, and allow them all to start fair under the new régime. At the Cabinet Council held on the 9th inst. it was resolved, on the proposition of the Minister of Justice, to abolish the prohibition hitherto in force for restricting the sale of certain newspapers in the streets of Paris. This resolution was officially notified the same afternoon to the *Marseillaise*, the *Rappel*, the *Réveil*, and other notoriously Opposition papers hitherto under the ban, and in the evening they were already to be purchased in the kiosks on the Boulevards and elsewhere. On the following day a further concession was made, which has gladdened the hearts of our fellow-countrymen and other foreigners residing in this city. It is the abolition of the very unpopular supervision of the foreign newspapers before their delivery to the subscribers, by which the latter now not only receive their papers at a much earlier hour, but they are sure of getting the whole file, which was not the case before, especially

the Belgian and German newspapers, two out of three of which were generally suppressed, and not even voucher copies with ordered advertisements were allowed to be delivered if they contained anything that was considered hostile to the Imperial Government, satirical, or otherwise objectionable. This liberal act of the new Ministry has been hailed with great enthusiasm by all classes of the inhabitants, as it is a thing to which they have been unaccustomed for nineteen years, whilst to the younger generation it is altogether a total novelty, as they have never known it otherwise. And "last though not least" among the wonders of the day, I may mention with great satisfaction that on the 13th inst.—"I like to be particular with dates," as Byron says, the more so as in this and the above-mentioned cases they possess an important historical interest—M. Ollivier, as Minister of Justice, communicated to his colleagues in office the draft of a bill he has already prepared for the trial by jury of all offences committed by the Press, one of the principal features of which bill, is that the jurymen are not to be nominated by the Prefects of Departments according to the old *sic volo, sic jubeo* system, but drawn fairly from a list containing the names of all persons duly qualified to claim the privilege of serving on juries by the possession of a certain amount of property or the payment of a stipulated amount of taxes. This bill will shortly be presented to the Legislative Assembly and the Senate—which may now be fairly designated by the appellation of the two Houses of the French Parliament—at all events during the course of the present session.

The melancholy episode of Victor Noir, one of Rochefort's collaborators on the *Marseillaise*, being shot by Prince Pierre Bonaparte, is scarcely adapted for the columns of the NEWSPAPER PRESS, and I should not have alluded to it at all, but that the victim was a journalist of some notoriety, and several other writers for the Press are more or less mixed up in the affair. Rochefort is furious. On the day after the event, the *Marseillaise* appeared with a deep black mourning border or margin, and containing the narrative of the homicide, and plenty of leading articles on the subject, beginning with these words in gigantic type: "*Voilà dix-huit ans que la France est entre les mains ensanglantées de ces coupe-jarrets*," with continuations in the same excited strain, ending with a call to all citizens to close their shops and attend the funeral procession: "*Pour prouver une fois pour toutes, que c'est le dernier assassinat que l'empire accomplira*." Since then, the *Marseillaise* and the *Rappel* have opened at their offices subscriptions for the erection of a monument to the memory of Victor Noir. At the head of the first list published stands the name of Louis Blanc. *Marseillaise*, *Rappel*, and *Cloche*, publish portraits of the victim; the *Parlement* portraits of Noir and Prince Bonaparte. The *Illustration* is not behind in pandering to the morbid excitement that has seized on all Paris, and having sent one of their artists to the house at Auteuil, readily obtained the permission of the Princess to make a sketch of the saloon, from which, and photograph portraits of the three persons engaged, he has made an engraving which gives a very good idea of the tragedy. Prince Peter has just discharged his revolver, Victor Noir is staggering under the deadly wound, whilst his friend and companion Ulric de Fonvielle is endeavouring to leave the room, evidently in fear of his life, and with one hand in the pocket of his paletot in search of the pistol he maintains he had not then taken out of it, in direct contradiction to the statement of the Prince, who avers that Fonvielle had drawn it before he fired the fatal shot at Noir.

Notwithstanding the difficulties under which the Press in this country has been hitherto suffering, the past year has been a prolific one for newspapers, and at Paris alone no less than a hundred and nine have been launched on the dangerous and uncertain waves of public favour, among which the most considerable were the *Journal Officiel*, the *Petit Journal Officiel*, *La Tribune Populaire*, the *National*, the *Parlement*, the *Peuple*, the *Rappel*, the *Réforme*, the *Marseillaise*, and the *Cloche*. This year, with a free Press and trial by jury, we are likely to be inundated with a deluge of new papers; though hitherto but few changes have been made. The *Universel* and the *Journal de Paris* have effected a fusion in order to become an Orleanist organ *par excellence*. Their joint *modus operandi* will be as follows: starting with the fundamental principle, that universal suffrage is irreconcilable

with the Monarchical system, they intend to agitate extensively for a Republic, in order to pave the way for the return of the Princes of the Orleans family and their admission to a share of the business of the State; after the successful accomplishment of which, they will go a step farther, though in an opposite direction, and do their best to re-introduce Monarchy and hoist one of those Princes up to the throne of Louis Philippe.

The *Revue Germanique*, founded some years ago by Neffzer-Dollfuss and Bamberger, and subsequently altered into the *Revue Moderne* under M. Keratry, has ceased to appear, and is amalgamated with the *Revue Contemporaine*. It is worthy of remark that this latter and the *Revue des Deux Mondes* are the only two periodicals of their class that have been able to hold their own against all comers; for in addition to the above mentioned fusion it has absorbed the *Athènes Françaises* and the *Revue Nouvelle*, though the latter received a liberal subvention from the Government.

A new journal in the German language has been started under the title of *Deutschland*. It appears to be rather an uncertain enterprise, now that German newspapers may freely enter France and circulate without any censorship.

In the provinces some alterations have already been announced and several more will follow. The *Gleaneur*, a literary journal published at Bazas in the Gironde, has become a political paper in the interests of order and the preservation of liberty. The *Indicateur d'Arcachon*, in the same department, has also been launched on the stormy sea of politics, supporting the cause of Liberalism and the new Ministry of M. Ollivier. On the other hand, the *Dix Décembre*, a Bonapartist organ founded by M. Rouher when Minister, was discontinued on the resignation of M. Forcade de la Roquette and his Cabinet. The shareholders of the *Illustration* are convened for their annual general meeting on the 31st inst., to receive the report of the director, audit the accounts, and declare a dividend for the past year.

Just after the formation of the "Cabinet of the 2nd of January," a member of the Legislative Assembly met the editor of a paper supporting the so-called Left-Centre, and said to him: "Well, I suppose you are contented now, for all your friends are in office."—"Yes, unfortunately."—"Unfortunately, why?"—"Because now we can't make opposition, and without opposition a journal is unable to exist. What can one say now? continual praise is monotonous, the public cannot stand it, and the subscribers fall off. Opposition and abuse—more or less forcibly laid on, according to circumstances—form the *sauce piquante* with which we journalists are obliged to flavour the contents of our papers, to give them a relish and enable the public to swallow them with appetite."

With the consent of the Legislative Assembly, of which he is now a member, Henri Rochefort has been prosecuted for his above-mentioned violent ebullition of feeling at the sad catastrophe that cut short the career of his friend Victor Noir. M. Ollivier laid so much stress on the necessity of a prosecution for the maintenance of order, and even with a due regard for public decency, that he made it a Cabinet question, and threatened to resign if the Legislative Assembly refused to allow the prosecution of one of their members. The trial came on before the usual court for offences of the Press—the Sixth Chamber of Correctional Police—last Saturday, and as the defendant did not make his appearance judgment was suffered to go by default, he being convicted of the offence imputed to him and condemned *in contumaciam* to three months' imprisonment. This sentence has made a favourable impression on the public generally, and at the *Bourse* especially, where it was cordially greeted by a rise in the funds.

AVANT-COURIER.

The trial of the *Rappel* for an article of a seditious character addressed to the army took place on the 6th ult. M. Charles Hugo and M. Felix Pyat, the latter by default, were sentenced to four months' imprisonment, M. Barbieux to three months, and each of them to a fine of 1000 francs.

M. Weiss, a well known journalist, and writer in the *Journal des Debats*, the *Courrier du Dimanche*, and the *Journal de Paris*, has been appointed Secretary General of the Ministry of Fine Arts.

VICTOR NOIR.—The *Journal de Paris* has a biographical notice of Victor Noir, the man killed by Prince Pierre Napoleon, signed by Edouard Hervé. It commences:—"We well knew the unfortunate Victor Noir, and have had for him a deep and sincere affection. His death would have greatly afflicted us apart from the tragic circumstances by which it was actually surrounded. We helped to introduce him into the Press some years ago, and never lost sight of him, although in these latter times he took a course different to that which we opened to him." The article states that Victor Noir commenced his journalistic career in the *Époque*. A young man, named Adolphe de Carfort, did the sub-editing for the *Époque*. One day the cholera carried him off, and on the next day a big fellow, tall and herculean, presented himself at the office of the paper. He had been employed, on the strength of his robust legs, to run about Paris and collect the *faits divers* by de Carfort, who afterwards put them in order. Like all giants, he was at once awkward and gentle—his name was Victor Noir. Having lost his old master he sought a new one at head-quarters, but he had very light notions of literary style, or even of orthography. "I can hardly write," said the giant, "but you can tell me." The originality of the individual, of the circumstances, and of his application, secured him an inferior post on the *Époque*, and when that journal changed proprietors he disappeared for a time. Subsequently he got another engagement on the *Journal de Paris*, through his old friends of the *Époque*, but left that paper to take an engagement on the *Rappel*, from which he was transferred to the *Marseillaise*, Rochefort's present paper. His real name was not Victor Noir (which was merely a *nom de plume*), but Victor Salmon. He was about to marry a girl of 16 years, when he met with his death in his 22nd year.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* writes:—

A little history has come to my knowledge. M. Robert Mitchell, who writes some of the very best articles in the *Constitutionnel*, is the son of an English gentleman very high up in the Press department of the French Foreign Office, who was much connected with the late Lord Palmerston. He—the son—was born at Bayonne, drawn for service in the French army, had to serve, got a medal and £10 a year—which, by the way, he refused, and then employed himself in writing for French papers. He contributed to the *Pays*, and the *Étendard*, and finally went back to the *Constitutionnel*, on condition that he might be allowed to write up "Ministerial responsibility."

The French newspapers commence the new year in the enjoyment of an unwonted amount of liberty, which too many of them have already abused, and thereby proved themselves unworthy of the privilege. Political opinions of the most impolitic character, and moral sentiments of the most immoral nature—if such terms are applicable—are openly and unblushingly proclaimed; and while the former would, if acted upon, overturn the fabric of the National Government, the latter would subvert the foundations of all social law and order. Deeply is this to be deplored; it is sad to see so much talent, vivacity, and genuine humour, as are to be found connected with the Press of Paris, absolutely wasted and prostituted upon treason and licentiousness.—*Printers' Register*.

Messrs. Vermorel and Clément, of the *Réforme* newspaper, were sentenced, on the 20th ult., to six months' imprisonment each, M. Malespine to four months, and M. Pyat to six months.

PROSECUTION OF NEWSPAPERS FOR PUBLISHING A PORTRAIT.—The Paris newspaper, the *Eclipse*, was prosecuted on the 19th ult. before the Correctional Police for having published, at one in the day, a portrait of Victor Noir after death, and for not having made the legal deposit of the paper until four in the afternoon. The *gérant*, M. Mauger, on the double charge of selling a journal without the preliminary deposit and publishing unauthorised illustrations, was condemned to a week's imprisonment and 100*f.* fine. At the same sitting M. Barbieux, *gérant* of the *Rappel*, was condemned to six days' imprisonment and 50*f.* fine for publishing a similar portrait without authorisation.

A new French journal, *Le Centre Garde*, will commence this day.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, January 26.

On the 20th inst. the order of the day in the Prussian House

of Representatives was the bill brought in by Messrs. Duncker and Ebert for the abolition of the laws now in force, and representing the liberty of the Press, among which are the obligation to send to the authorities a copy of every paper printed, the deposit of caution money, the seizure of newspapers, and the power to withdraw the permission once granted to carry on any branch of the trade connected with the Press. Duncker explained that the delay in bringing forward the new Press law promised by the Minister of the Interior had induced him to place his motion again on the order of the day, in compliance with the reservation he had made to that effect. It concerned a measure of reform that would admit of no further postponement; one that no country in an advanced state of civilisation could put up with any longer, and which ought to have been introduced in Prussia immediately after the eventful year 1866. Herr Glaser moved the following resolution:—"In consideration of the declaration made some time ago by the Minister that a new Press law is now being drawn up, it is expedient to take no further action in the matter, but to leave it with confidence in the hands of the Government." With regard to the subject itself, there could be no doubt that it required a thorough reform, and that all the patching and mending in the world could never produce a perfect measure. As Government had promised to bring in a new bill, he considered it desirable to wait and see what provisions it contained, and he had no doubt that the delay was occasioned by unforeseen difficulties, which must first be removed out of the way. The resolution was, however, thrown out, and the bill passed by a very decided majority, including the Liberal Conservatives; Count Eulenburg, who was seated at the Ministerial table, quietly watching the proceedings, but making no observations, nor offering any opposition. The following is the text of the bill:

"§ 1.—The obligation to deposit with the local police authorities a copy of every newspaper, periodical, or other work containing less than twenty printed sheets, either at the time of publication or previously, is hereby repealed.

"§ 2.—The duty hitherto enforced on publishers of newspapers and periodicals of depositing caution money, is abolished. Newspapers and periodicals are however bound to contain the name of the responsible editor. Only such persons as are in full possession of their senses and their civil rights, and belong to the jurisdiction of the North-German Confederation—this was an amendment of Herr Laaker, in substitution of Prussian jurisdiction—can undertake the office of responsible editor.

"§ 3.—The authority hitherto enjoyed by the Procurator Fiscal and his subordinates to make seizure of newspapers and other printed matter, as well as the plates, type, presses, and other materials required for printing, is hereby withdrawn.

"§ 4.—The revocation by sentence of a court of law of the permission once granted for carrying on the trade of printer, publisher, or other branch connected with the Press, as hitherto practised by virtue of Art. 54 of the Law of May 12, 1851, is hereby done away with.

"§ 5.—All decrees, ordinances, and enactments, militating in any way against the provisions of this bill, are hereby repealed."

On the other hand, I learn from good authority that the draft of the new Press law is already in an advanced state of progress, and have also heard something of its contents. According to my informant at Berlin, the deposit of caution money is considered superfluous and been given up, as also the right of seizure; but the bill insists on the necessity of renewing the obligation of sending a copy of every paper to the authorities, to enable them to keep a wholesome check on the Press and become acquainted with all that is printed. The bill will further contain an official definition of what is to be understood by the terms newspaper and periodical, which has given rise to many disputes and cavils for want of an authentic interpretation. And finally, I have reason to believe that it will contain a list of the responsible persons in due order of their responsibility; so that the courts of law may know exactly where to place their finger on the sinner in case of any infringement of the law.

Herr A. Salomon, the much-plagued editor of the political journal *Fortschritt*, at Guben, after losing all his caution money by a succession of fines, has resolved to continue the paper without caution money, excluding the treatment of social and political questions, as many other papers do in Prussia. But what a hundred other papers print without caution is not allowed to pass muster with the keepers of the Press law at Guben, and the un-

lucky editor has just been fined again 50 dollars for reproducing an article taken from another paper.

Several changes in the German Press have taken place with the new year, among which are the following: The printer, H. A. Marahrens, of Leipzig, announces a new class journal for his trade under the title of the *Buchdrucker Zeitung*. The *Rheinische Allgemeine Zeitung*, with a National-liberal tendency, has appeared at Bonn, and promises to be a great success; on the other hand, the idea of establishing a Catholic journal as a counterpoise to the *Bonner Zeitung*, published at that university, is abandoned. The Berlin *Protestantische Kirchenzeitung*, the well-known organ of the Liberal theologians in Germany, has changed editors with the new year, the editorship being transferred to the Rev. P. W. Schmidt, D.D., Private Docent of the Theological Faculty at the Berlin University, the duties of editor having been provisionally carried on by a committee since the lamented death of the late Dr. H. Krause. The paper will continue to be published by Herr G. Reimer, at Berlin. Additional contributors and correspondents have been engaged among the Professors of Theology at the universities of Heidelberg, Bonn, Halle, Göttingen, and Berlin.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, Jan. 25.

Now that the newspaper stamp duty has been abolished in Hungary, its repeal in the German provinces of the Austrian monarchy may shortly be expected to ensue. Dr. Brestl, the Minister of Finance, has expressed himself in favour of the alteration which has already been mooted in the Lower House of Parliament, and referred *pro forma* to a committee to report on, at the head of which is Herr Bauhaus, chief of a section in the Ministry of the Interior, and an intimate and confidential friend and supporter of the Finance Minister. But the Government is as much averse to giving up the advertisement duty as they were in Hungary. Several alterations and additions to the Austrian Press have been made with the new year, among which may be mentioned a new agricultural weekly, called the *Zeitung für Landwirthe und Grundbesitzer*, edited by Herr Anton Niendorf; *Jechl's Landwirthschaftliches Wochenblatt* (published at Prague); a new series of the *Mittheilungen der Kaiserl. Königl. Landwirthschafts-Gesellschaft in Wien*; and the *Sportblatt*, an organ of horse-breeders, published by Francis Cavaliero and Carl Leidesdorf, at Vienna. The *Neue Wiener Landwirthschaftliche Zeitung* is no longer published by the Agricultural Society, but conducted by the hitherto editor, Hirschmann, for his own account. The *Agronomische Zeitung*, after five and twenty years' existence, has been taken over by its late editor, Dr. U. Schwarzwöller, appearing now in an altered form, and at half the former price. A new weekly, called *Oesterreich*, has also been started with the new year, under the editorship of Dr. Capillari. It forms part of the history of Austria as regards its development and progress in civilisation, and is designed to convey both instruction and amusement to the people.

TEUTON.

ROUMANIA.

The Roumanian Press has developed itself in a very creditable manner during the last ten years. The German Post-office Price Current gives a list of more than twenty political, and for the first time some (six) non-political papers, printed at Bukarest and Jassy. The Moldavian Press dates from 1825, in which year the lately deceased poet, public writer, and latterly Minister, Arsaki, founded the first paper, and introduced the printing press, erected in 1840 the first paper mill, subsequently founding the Public Library, the University, the Chemical Laboratory, and the Museum of Natural History. From 1856, till his death last year, he was Minister of the Interior.

RUSSIA.

At St. Petersburg the new year has produced an important and valuable mercantile organ, that was much wanted there. It is called the *Börsen und Handels Zeitung*, and is published as the morning edition of a local paper. It is edited by the secretary of the Statistical Section of the Exchange Committee, Herr Jung-Stilling, a well-known German writer on commercial and statistical subjects.

At Riga, Dr. Ernst Brutzer has been forbidden by the Press Department to publish any longer his *Baltische Schul-Zeitung*. He lodged a complaint at St. Petersburg against this proceeding of the local authorities, but hitherto without success.

DEATH OF A CELEBRATED RUSSIAN JOURNALIST.—Alexander Herten, the celebrated Russian pamphleteer, who had been suffering for some days from diabetes, has just died at the Hotel du Pavillon de Rohan, Rue de Rivoli, Paris, in his 53rd year. He was born in Moscow, and from the days when he was a student in the university of that city, carried on a war to the knife against Czarism. He suffered imprisonment, and was exiled to Siberia, and afterwards established in London his newspaper-pamphlet, the *Kolokol*, which was smuggled into Russia in large numbers, and scattered far and wide. He wrote many historical and political works, amongst which were "The development of revolutionary ideas in Russia," "Baptised Property" (by which term he designated the Russian serfs), "Prison and Exile," &c. It is said that the Emperor of Russia was one of the most constant and careful readers of the *Kolokol*, deriving from it much profitable information which might not otherwise reach him.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, January 26.

The General Post Office in this city have published a list of Swedish journals that can be subscribed for through the post from the beginning of this year. It contains a catalogue of 219 papers, of which eight are published six times a week. These are the *Affonbladet* and the *Dagbladet*, both of which appear in two different editions; a large one for Stockholm, with advertisements, and a smaller one for country circulation—*Dagbladet Allehanda*, *Dagens Nyheter*, *Post-och Inrikes-Tidningar*, *Stockholmsposten*, *Göteborgsposten*, and *Göteborgs Handels-och Sjöfarts Tidning*. The periodical literature in Sweden is no doubt very considerable in proportion to the population, though absolutely, and in point of numbers, far behind Switzerland, where there is such a multitude of small local papers; but in large and daily journals, Sweden takes the lead. With regard to periodicals too, which have much increased of late, Sweden takes high rank, as there are ten for agriculture and horticulture, three literary, three for medicine and pharmacy, and three for education, besides a number of class papers for statistics, geography, engineering, architecture, legislation, sport, military affairs, and the Civil Service.

At Gothenburg a new weekly journal in the Swedish language has been started, as a means of communication between the Swedes in the United States and their native country. It is called the *America*, and contains a summary of the home news of the week. Now that so many Swedes have settled over the water, and emigration from this country is rapidly increasing from year to year, it is likely to become a paying concern.

At Christiansa a new paper has appeared in the Norwegian language, called the *Dagliche Nyheder*, or "Daily News." Its programme is support for the Progressionist party, and firm adherence to the principles maintained by the majority of the Storthing. It is edited by C. Johnson of the Civil Service.

NORD.

SPAIN.

It may be useful to explain that the *Republica Iberica*, frequently quoted by the English journals, was formerly known by the name of the *Reforma*.

PORTUGAL.

During the present year 118 newspapers, some daily, some weekly, have been published in Portugal. Of these sixty-six have been political, fifty-two literary or scientific. Among the political papers, one only, the '*Revolução de Setembro*,' now Conservative, but formerly the organ of the most advanced Liberals, has existed for thirty-three years. The '*Jornal do Commercio*,' which has always defended Liberal doctrines, is in its seventeenth year. Of the rest none can count more than ten years, while several have lived and died within the space of months or of days, because they had no other foundation than personal ambition or speculation.—*Athenæum*.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.

I have seen it remarked more than once in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* (possibly in my own letters) that journalism in America is sometimes the pioneer of civilisation, and as often precedes as follows the settlement of a district—always attends the erection of the few log huts, that in two or three short years spring into a full blown city. The latest instance of this comes from our precious bargain, formerly known as Russian America, but christened by Mr. Seward "Alaska." It seems that a newspaper called the *Alaska Times* has been hatched in the sterile region of rock and snow, and is already more than twelve months old.

The folding machine of the *New York Citizen* got out of gear last month, and the result is thus wofully mentioned in a recent number: "Such a conglomeration of advertisements and editorials, reviews, dramatic notices, and poetry as was produced, was pitiable in the extreme." The proprietors, however, liberally struck off an extra edition, and replaced as far as practicable the "huddled up" issue.

The *New World* is the title of a recent addition to our New York Press. It comes out every Saturday, contains sixteen pages, and is priced at ten cents. It deals with the current news, but is principally literary and masonic in its character, and has a tale running from week to week.

B. F. H. Lynn, a well known Pennsylvanian journalist, at one time editor of the *Erie Dispatch*, has established a new weekly journal in the city, under the title of the *Western Pennsylvanian*.

John G. Saxe is paid a dollar a line for his poem in the *New York Ledger*.

I have found in a recent English "Exchange" the following statement: "The *Midnight Scorpion* and the *Noon-day Avenger* is the name of a Woman's Rights paper just started in Texas." I can only say that I have never heard of such a paper, and do not believe in its existence. It savours very much of the New York *Private Sewer* and *Keyhole Reporter* inventions in "American Notes" and "Martin Chuzzlewit," but comes too late to be even witty, for the age for such things has gone by. SOL.

Mr. M. M. Noah, late of the San Francisco *Alta California*, has assumed the editorial charge of the *National Intelligencer*.—Some venturesome New Yorker meditates publishing an *American Punch*. He evidently does not heed the wrecks in that line before him.—The *Evening Tribune* has just made its appearance on the San Francisco stage, supported by a brilliant troupe of gaily clad newsboys.—*Anglo-American Times*.

There is a report that Mr. Bowen, of the *Independent*, has purchased the Brooklyn *Union*, a Republican daily, and that a Democratic ring has bought the Brooklyn *Eagle*, the latter selling for 300,000 dols., and the former for 200,000 dols.; but a rumour at one time spread that both papers had been bought up by the ring. Mr. George Wilkes, of the *Spirit of the Times*, applied to Justice Dowling for the arrest of Messrs. Bruce and Simpson, proprietors of the *Turf, Field and Farm*, wherein he asserted a libel had been published on his St. Louis correspondent. After some demur the order was given, and Mr. Bruce appeared on Thursday at the Tombs and tendered bail for 1,000 dols.—*Ibid*.

The editorial fraternity in Wisconsin have good reason to be proud of the many noble and true members still wearing the harness among them, as well as of the men of worth and distinction that have been called to wider spheres of duty in other States. We have in our mind's eye a long list of those who are now, or who have been engaged in quill-driving in this State, and who have been fortunate enough to write themselves into the favourable notice of their fellow-countrymen. We note down the names of a few of those with whom we are personally acquainted, leaving it for others, whose experience stretches back over a longer term of years, to correct the list: Hon. Carl Schurz, United States Senator from Missouri, and editor-in-chief of the *St. Louis Post*. Hon. Harrison Reed, Governor of Florida, formerly connected with the *Milwaukee Sentinel*, *Madison Journal* and *Menasha Conservator*. Hon. Horace Rublee, of the *Madison Journal*, Resident Minister in Switzerland. Hon. H. D. Barron, ex-Speaker of the Wisconsin Assembly and now Fifth Auditor of the Treasury, formerly editor of the *Waukesha Plaindealer*. Hon. C. D. Robinson, of the *Green Bay Advocate*, formerly Secretary of State, and now the Democratic candidate for Governor. Hon.

J. C. Cover, of the Grant County *Herald*, United States Consul to Fayal. Hon. E. G. Ross, United States Senator from Kansas. Mr. Ross was by trade a printer, and set up type upon the *Gazette*, *Milwaukee Sentinel*, and *Free Democrat*. He occasionally contributed articles to the editorials of the Milwaukee dailies. Hon. Emile Rothe, once Democratic candidate for Secretary of State, now editor of the leading German newspaper in Cincinnati. Hon. David Atwood, of the *Madison Journal*, member of the National Republican Committee, and a prominent candidate for Governor in the last Republican State Convention. Hon. O. Lathan Sholes, for twenty-five years one of the leading editors of the State and recently temporary President of the Democratic State Convention and Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions. Col. E. A. Calkins, formerly of the *Madison Argus*, and now of the *St. Paul Pioneer*. General Rufus King, editor of the *Milwaukee Sentinel*, Minister to Rome, and an officer in the Federal army. Charles Holt, formerly of the *Gazette*, now publishing the *Kankakee (Ill.) Gazette*. J. M. Bundy, Esq., formerly managing editor of the *Milwaukee Sentinel*, now editor-in-chief of the *New York Evening Mail*. L. L. Crounse, Esq., once commercial editor of the *Milwaukee Free Democrat*, now chief of the reporters' staff in Washington for the *New York Times*. M. M. Pomeroy and J. H. Lambert, of the *La Crosse Democrat*, the first editor-in-chief, and the other managing editor of the *New York Democrat*. The late Charles H. Wright, at the time of his death city editor of the *Chicago Times*, and formerly one of the editors of the *Democratic Standard* in this city. H. R. Hobart and E. Chamberlain, two Wisconsin boys, who add much to the value and sprightliness of the *Chicago Post*. Professor J. W. Hoyt, of the State University; the late Mary H. C. Booth, the poetess; the late Judge A. D. Smith, of the Supreme Court; Hon. C. W. Willard, M. C., of Vermont; and J. H. Field, city editor of the *Chicago Journal*, were once connected with the Wisconsin Press.—*Janesville Gazette*.

The following tribute to the local paper, which we take from the columns of the *Chicago Republican*, contains so much truth that we commend it to the careful consideration of all business men, and others interested in the welfare of their local journals:

What tells us so readily the standard of a town or a city as the appearance of its paper? And its youth or its age can as well be determined by the observing as by a personal notice. The enterprise of its citizens is depicted by its advertisements, their liberality by the looks of the paper. Some papers show a good solid, healthy foundation, plethoric purses, and a well-to-do appearance generally; others show a striving to contend with the grasping thousands around them, trying hard to wrench an existence from their close-fisted communities. An occasional meteoric display in its columns of telegraph or local, or of editorials, shows what it can do if it had the means; but it cannot continue in the expensive work until support comes, which ought to be readily granted. A newspaper is like a church—it wants fostering in the commencement, and for a few years; then, as a general thing, it can walk alone, and reflect credit upon its location. Take your home paper—it gives you more news of immediate interest than any other paper can possibly do; it talks for you when other localities belie you; it stands up for your rights; you always have a champion in your home paper; and those who stand up for you should certainly be well sustained. Your interests are kindred and equal, and you must rise or fall together. Therefore, it is to your interest to support your home paper, not grudgingly, but in a liberal spirit; as a pleasure, not as a disagreeable duty, but as an investment that will amply pay the expenditure.

One of the editors of the *Detroit Post* has seen a copy of the *Detroit Gazette*, the first successful newspaper published in Michigan, which was started in 1817. He describes it as "a small, single sheet, with four columns to the page, printed in the blackest of ink, upon coarse, dingy-looking paper, and made its appearance every Friday, or as soon thereafter as the mail arrived from the East. Sheldon & Read were the publishers, and Theophilus Mettez was one of the printers. A glance at the news department suggests a strange contrast with the papers of today. The telegraph, and its offspring, the Associated Press, were not yet dreamed of, and instead of a telescopic view of all Christendom every morning, our fathers who read the *Gazette* received weekly a brief-rehash of New York papers three weeks old, London papers eight weeks old, and Continental papers whose exact age seemed to be a matter of indifference. The death of Napoleon I., which occurred May 5, was reported in

Detroit, August 3, and the editor managed to grind out a leader on that momentous event by September 15. This leader is six sentences in length and contains an allusion to Hannibal, one to Alexander, and one to Caesar, and concludes with an amiable imprecation on Great Britain for the constraint placed on the deceased. It almost appals one to think of the interminable stunning leaders such an event would call forth now. But that was an age of simplicity, and the editor usually consulted the taste of his readers by discoursing on Antichrist or the millennium, or whether Buffalo should not be compelled to change its barbarous name, or on some topic equally soothing and instructive."—*Proof Sheet*.

RED RIVER SETTLEMENT.

I hope I shall not be suspected of insinuating any pretence to an acknowledgment of our independence, or even a concession of belligerent rights, if I communicate for the information of the readers of the NEWSPAPER PRESS that our insurgents have already started an "organ of independence." Mr. Stultzman, a lawyer from Illinois, has issued the first number of the *New Nation*, advocating a temporising, but by no means conciliatory policy. It acknowledges the old régime of the Hudson's Bay Company, repudiates the connexion with Canada, advocates an interval of independence, with an ultimate view to an annexation with the States. As there is no authority to stop it, it will very likely have its way.

Another paper is, it is said, to be started by Major Robinson, under the title of the *Independent*. SOL.

THE "GRAPHIC."—The conductors of this journal are about to present a series of sketches, made by Mr. A. B. Houghton at San Francisco, and on the route thither. The series, it is understood, will comprise sketches of character among those strange sects of which Mr. Hepworth Dixon has written so much—Mormons, Shakers, &c.—*Echo*.

"THE WINDSOR AND ETON HERALD" is the title of a local Conservative journal for the "royal borough," mainly started by the exertion of Mr. Richardson Gardner.

SCURRILOUS NEWSPAPERS.—It is all very well to abuse a scurrilous paper, but those who ought to be abused are its readers. If libellous or obscene literature prevails, it is due to the immorality of the public, and it is mere hypocrisy for a regular reader to denounce the publication. The publication is so much wrapping paper, if not read, and no one can continue to print who does not find others to read, for the work is laborious and costly in the extreme.—*Anglo-American Times*.

A NEW JOURNAL, to be called the *North of England Farmer and Northern Counties Gazette*, an organ for the farmers of Northumberland, Cumberland, Durham, Westmoreland, Yorkshire, Roxburghshire, and the borders, will appear at Newcastle-on-Tyne on March 4th.

THE "EVENING STANDARD."—With the new year, on the first page of the *Evening Standard* general matter was substituted for advertisements, which are shifted to another page.

AGGREGATE ISSUE OF LONDON NEWSPAPERS.—The figures contained in the following statement are being quoted by several of our contemporaries, with the too common disregard of strict honesty in acknowledging the source from which they are taken. It will add to their authenticity and value, to say that they occur in the most excellent article on "Literature of the People," which appeared in the New Year's No. of the *Athenæum*:—"Compulsory stamps, excise, and advertising duties long impeded the development of the Newspaper Press in England. To what that development has already reached is to be seen in this one fact, that the yearly issue in London alone of newspapers published daily is little, if at all, under eighty millions. This is a number which is easily expressed, but which can scarcely be so grasped as to be understood. The mind is still more embarrassed to thoroughly conceive the number of copies of London weekly papers issued in the year, namely, a hundred and twenty millions. Weekly and daily, we may calculate them, in round numbers, at two hundred millions of copies yearly."

SOME time ago one of our "Notes" contained a reference to the alleged cow-hiding of Mr. Marriott, editor of the *San Francisco News Letter*, by a Miss Elise Holt, late of the Strand Theatre, whose ire had been aroused by a criticism in that journal. Mr. Marriott writes to the *Athenæum* to say that Miss Holt's interview was with the publisher, not with the editor, that "her remonstrances were verbal," and that "apart from her theatrical performances, Miss Holt behaved during her stay in San Francisco with the utmost propriety and decorum."

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—JANUARY 12.

(Sittings in Banco, before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE and Justices MELLOR and HANNEN).

CLAYTON V. HARPER.

THIS was an action for libel against the *Huddersfield Chronicle*, tried at Manchester before Mr. Baron Martin at the last winter assizes, when the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages 1000*l*. [The plaintiff was a news-vendor in Huddersfield, and he held the office of one of the guardians of that place. The libel charged him with having been found in a shed of the work-house with a nurse under circumstances which left no doubt as to the object of their being there. The defendant pleaded not guilty, and a justification, and the latter was attempted to be proved by a stonemason, who was jealous of the plaintiff's familiarity with the nurse, and who stated that finding them there he fell upon the plaintiff and blacked his eyes.]

Mr. Pope, Q.C., applied for a rule nisi for a new trial on the ground that the damages were excessive. The jury were evidently disgusted at the manner in which the stonemason gave his evidence, and did not believe him, but it was too bad to punish the defendant to so great an extent on that account. The plaintiff's eyes were blackened on the following day. He said he was knocked down at the railway station, but he failed to give a satisfactory account of how it happened. There was evidence to show that a public inquiry took place into the plaintiff's conduct, with reference to his behaviour towards a female pauper in his own shop, and which occurred about the time of the publication of this libel. Those proceedings were published together with the resolution of the guardians that they believed the charge to be proved. That circumstance the defendant contended must have had an effect in depreciating the plaintiff's business, and should have been taken into account by the jury awarding damages. The plaintiff derived a benefit from the publication of the libel, because he stated it greatly enhanced the sale of the newspapers which contained it. The learned judge declined at the trial to state any opinion as to the amount of damages. The money had been paid into court and execution stayed, to enable the defendant to apply to the court. The article no doubt was written in bad taste, and would not have appeared but for the absence of the responsible editor.

Rule granted.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—JANUARY 14.

(Sittings at Nisi Prius, before Mr. Baron CLEASBY and a Common Jury.)

NORTH V. BRADSHAW AND ANOTHER.

THIS was an action for libel. The defendant pleaded not guilty. Mr. J. Powell, Q.C., and Mr. Waddy appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Digby Seymour, Q.C., and Mr. Cave for the defendants.

The plaintiff, Mr. John North, is the landlord of the Angel Inn, Sheffield, and the defendants, Messrs. Bradshaw, are the proprietors of the *Nottingham Journal*. On the 25th February, 1868, the plaintiff attended the Nottingham races, and put up at the Lion Hotel, in that town. When he retired to rest in the evening he placed 80*l*. in notes and a gold watch and chain on the dressing table, and in the morning he found they had been stolen. He heard nothing more about the matter until the 6th of October last, when a letter appeared in the defendant's paper headed "Sheffield Again," addressed to the editor, and signed "A. Spriggs," commenting in a satirical strain upon this and another more recent robbery of a Sheffield gentleman at a Nottingham hotel, and insinuating that they had not actually taken place. The writer said, "Is it not possible that they never had the money, nor the watch, nor the chain, and that their sad tale of reality was simply to excite curiosity and suspicion, and give a little work for able bodied detectives, and emanated from an overloaded stomach or excited brain, in the shape of a nightmare or a dream?" Two days afterwards there was another communication from the same writer, saying that this gentleman (meaning plaintiff) had represented that he had also been robbed of money and a watch and chain at a hotel in Chesterfield (whereas the plaintiff had never done anything of the kind), and that it was singular these so-called daring robberies were always connected with publicans and brewers. The plaintiff's solicitor wrote to the defendants, asking for the name of the writer, and they replied that until they received his letter they did not know that the communication referred to John North, of Sheffield, and expressed their regret for what had been done. Subsequently further correspondence took place, and the defendants offered to publish the amplest apology, and give up the name of the author, and prove the authorship of the letters. The plaintiff accepted these terms, provided the defendants paid the costs, but they declined to do so, and the action proceeded.

Mr. Seymour said his clients were sorry they had unintentionally injured the plaintiff; but they had published a full apology and retraction in their newspaper, and had done all they could to extract the sting of the libel. The question now resolved itself into a mere matter of costs.

Mr. Baron Cleasby observed that it was a very galling thing to a man to have letters like this published against him, and he thought it was only fair the defendants should pay the costs. Newspapers should be cautious in regard to what they publish, and when they insert such scurrilous letters they must take the consequences.

Mr. Seymour said his client would consent to a verdict for the plaintiff, and to pay the costs.

Mr. Waddy.—My client wants something else. The defendants are doubtless very respectable people, but evidently some one has a most determined intention to injure the plaintiff, and I must make it a condition that the name of the writer shall be given up.

Mr. Seymour declined to disclose the name.

Mr. Baron Cleasby said that when the defendants offered to give the name, it was on the understanding that the action should be abandoned, but as it had been persevered in it would be imposing harsh terms to require them to adhere to that offer.

A verdict was then entered for the plaintiff, damages 40s., the learned judge giving a certificate for costs.

LORD MAYOR'S COURT.

COLLINS V. SWAN.

This was an action to recover 3l. 10s. for advertising. Defendant is a chemist, residing at Bishops Stortford, and, on behalf of the One Wine Company advertised, as agent, in the plaintiff's newspaper. Plaintiff said he had told the defendant that he would not advertise for the wine company in question, now in liquidation, unless he had the authority of the defendant, who now denied that he had consented to make himself responsible. In evidence on this point the books of the plaintiff were asked for, but they were not produced, the plaintiff stating, however, that the cost of the advertisement had been charged to defendant after its expiry, and it was subsequent to this that he heard the company was in liquidation. The jury found for plaintiff for 3l. 16s.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.—JANUARY 26. (Before Mr. Registrar ROCHE.)

IN RE W. SMITH.

This was a sitting for proof of debts. The bankrupt is described as a journalist, newspaper proprietor, and civil engineer, of Salisbury Street, Strand. In his preliminary statement he returns his liabilities at about 4000l., but other large claims having been brought in the amount is considerably augmented. The bankrupt had been the proprietor and publisher of the *Artisan and the Freemasons' Magazine*. The total debts are about 9000l.

Home Subjects.

A TELEGRAPHIC CURIOSITY.—The *Bombay Times* publishes the following Reuter's message, which it received *via* Russia:—London, 17th, Alderman Salamon titary Salt baromds crawfords refused corancelay another agribian asination ireland Correcton butury Catholic Archbishop Armach."—21st.—"Days insurrection Volonty Barcelona refused Disarm Erectia bariechres totegul send awaire of sovere fighting order restored Jestiff feary pallot Cornerised sonied."—22nd.—letter popp Ruminery Illumining Contat Allap non—Catholics Anter Encommedial Concil for Discussion from already contend arbitrary generally Chained houles fore times braves Suffies deproved with drawstoc to presented spot his Government saying excepted instructions and Washington Government disavowes proceedirm a Ormon King Portugal ocepting thrown spirit abdicating favor Creditory prince Secretary Governor tarasend—assassinated republicean mob for attempting put down revolatory flows back hole Cambreian disoute rumoured large withdrawl tomorrow Shealy telegraphed Washington Spain revolved not unjociate for Solei Emperreur Napoleon have given audience to Lord Clarendon prince prussian Cowing Constantinople afterbeitir suez brachop excited." Failing to decipher this despatch, the *Bombay Times* prints it for the information of its readers.

It will hardly be credited, says the *Illustrated Midland News*, that, although the Paper Duty has been repealed for several years, there are no more daily newspapers published in London to-day than there were fifteen years ago.

A NEW daily evening paper was started at Dublin by Mr. Henry George Henderson on the 10th of January, under the title of the *Dublin Evening Standard*. Its principles are Conservative and Protestant. In his opening address the editor says:—"While combating revolution, we will heartily support every real and well-considered reform. True Protestant principles we will maintain with unflinching firmness. Thoroughly Conservative in all that is worth preserving, radically opposed to every abuse which may be proved to exist, and dealing with the honest convictions of others in a spirit of liberality, the main object, kept steadily in view by the *Dublin Evening Standard*, will be to encourage true national union between all classes of our countrymen, and to cherish a healthy, rational, public opinion." The price of the new paper is one penny.

NEWSPAPER COPYRIGHT.—If we are to credit newspaper reports, learned judges know little of the law as regards copyrights. In a recent case Vice-Chancellor Sir R. Malins is reported to have argued that the representation that there was no copyright in newspapers could not be correct. "If so," said the learned and honourable judge, "the letters of special correspondents abroad, obtained at a vast expense, would become common property immediately on publication, and might be republished on the evening of the same day by another paper." What a pity it is that Sir R. Malins does not refresh himself occasionally by purchasing and examining the contents of an evening paper.—*Literary World*.

"THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY GAZETTE."—Under this title there appeared on the 28th ultimo a *Gazette* "by authority," for the purpose of recording the proceedings of the University, and publishing such notices as are necessary for the information of its members and the public. The subscription is ten shillings per annum, and the new journal is printed at the Clarendon Press.

THE SUB-EDITOR IN HIS DEN.—There is the greasy date-box on the chimney-piece, the dingy old maps hung against the wall, the clumsy volumes of the "file" piled in hopeless confusion in the rack, the little bookcase, stuffed with works of reference—dictionaries, peerages, encyclopædias—the labyrinth of speaking tubes gathered on all sides of the sub-editor's seat, and the huge heaps of old newspapers, over which the unwary visitor stumbles. This, far more than the room of the chief leader-writer, or of any other member of the staff, is the real heart and centre of the great machine whose influence is felt all over England; and the man who labours here is he who approaches most nearly to the popular ideal of a newspaper editor. It is into his hands that the epistles of "Pater-familias," "An Indignant Traveller," "A Volunteer," "A Constant Subscriber to your Valuable Journal," and the other variously-named writers who look to the press for the redress of their grievances, fall; he it is who knows the night before what the paper of the next morning is going to contain; who decides whether the "copy" which poor Flimsy the penny-a-liner has dropped into the box with fear and trembling an hour before, shall be accepted and paid for, or flung carelessly into the waste-basket; who writes the short stinging notes at the end of letters of disagreeable or wearisome correspondents, which are invariably signed "Ed.," as though they alone, of all the original matter in the paper, had come from the hands of the editor; who compiles the readable summary of the day's news, whereby in five minutes you make yourselves acquainted with all the more important contents of the paper; and under whose direction the whole of that vast array of close reading, the law reports, accounts of meetings, accidents, ceremonies, and races, letters from foreign correspondents, and miscellaneous items of information which make up the bulk of every modern newspaper, are gathered together, condensed, digested, and arranged in the convenient form in which they are subsequently presented to the public.—*Chambers's Journal*.

WE understand that Mr. Edmund Dacey has accepted the editorship of the *Daily News*.

A NEW Conservative illustrated journal, with chromo-lithograph cartoon, will shortly appear.

"THE NEWS LIST AND INDEX" is a new venture. It presents an index to the contents of the chief newspapers and magazines. The "News List and Index" is well-printed, and the price is one penny. ON the 5th ult., a deputation from the Lord's Day Observance Society waited upon Colonel Frazer, Commissioner of City Police, complaining of the Sunday crying of newspapers in the streets, but no practical issue resulted.

TWO NEW PAPERS are about to start at Ashton-under-Lyne, the *Ashton Courier* (Conservative), and the *Ashton Standard* (Ritualistic).

NEWSPAPER STAMPS.—An Inland Revenue return recently issued shows that in the financial year 1868-69 26,908,115 impressed newspaper stamps were issued for newspapers intended for transmission by post, producing a revenue of £115,984. Railways maintain a strong competition for this traffic, and this source of revenue is decreasing. In the year 1867-68 the number of impressed stamps required was 27,892,769; in 1866-67, 27,863,572; in 1865-66, 28,590,673.

THE "BRIGHTON DAILY NEWS," whose birth we announced some fourteen months ago, has just been considerably enlarged, the price remaining, however, at one halfpenny.

THE only portion, fortunately, of the English press which up to the present evinces any disposition to imitate the American "interviewing" nuisance, are the sporting journals. According to a well-known writer, Sir Joseph Hawley is watched and dogged by spies wherever he goes. He cannot move without a "special commissioner" at his heels. If he dines at a club or hotel, he is instantly surrounded by a rush of waiters, who under pretence of assiduous service hang about the table in order to pick up scraps of talk for the benefit of the tipsters. It is a fine thing, no doubt, to win the Derby or St. Leger, and £18,000—Sir Joseph Hawley's gain in stakes last year—is not a bad return from a small stud; but these triumphs are dearly bought at the cost of all the torture involved in being perpetually hunted by sporting editors and occasionally libelled into the bargain. There is a limit to human endurance in such a case, and it was not surprising that when Sir Joseph had a couple of his enemies in his power he should be disposed to show them little mercy.—*Printers' Register*.

THE DUBLIN PRESS.—The circulation of *Saunders's News-Letter* and the *Evening Mail* are said to be 8000 each; the *Irish Times* and *Freeman's Journal*, 14,000; *Evening Post*, 3000; *Irish People and Nation*, 7000; the *Weekly News*, 42,000; *Irishman and Flag of Ireland*, 14,000.

THE "GLOBE."—On and after the opening of Parliament (8th of February) the *Globe* will be enlarged and printed in new type specially cast for it. The price will be as at present, one penny. For the special edition an extra charge of 3d. per week will be made to cover the extra postage fee.

MR. F. CAUSTON, formerly on the *Norfolk News*, is the new editor of the *Yarmouth Independent*, in place of Mr. White.

FREEDOM of the press is essential to that of the nation. Far from us be it to despise the value or circumscribe the limits of the boon. At the same time we are disposed to question whether the liberty granted to advertisers—especially in one of our contemporaries—is not carried a little too far. It is pleasant for the father who has seen his daughter off by the Little Pedlington rail at two p.m., or the husband who has just parted with his wife, or the lover with his sweetheart, to read, as possibly he may, that the lady who travelled on that particular line at that particular hour is earnestly requested to send her address to appoint an interview with the gentleman with red whiskers who sat opposite her. Surely such advertisements ought not to appear in respectable papers. As regards the particular paper in question of which we complain this easy toleration is the more to be deprecated, since its crowded columns are better filled with advertisements than with general intelligence interesting to the community at large.—*Literary World*.

MR. GEORGE HODDER, a well known contributor to the metropolitan press, is about to publish reminiscences of his personal acquaintance with celebrated individuals, during the last thirty years; with a full account of the origin of *Punch*.

THE price of the *Liverpool Mail* has been reduced to one penny.

A VERY seasonable addition to our class papers appeared on the 15th of January—the *Electric Telegraph Review*. There is ample scope for such a journal, if well conducted.

THE *Court Register* is the title of a pretty little fashionable newspaper. It is printed on a pink toned paper. No. 1 appeared on the first of January. It only requires to be perfumed by Mr. Rimmel, to complete its character—as an accessory to the toilet table; we do not suppose it aspires to the study, or even to the breakfast table.

"THE MILLION, a Journal for Everybody," price one penny, is announced. It is to be an illustrated paper.

Notes and Queries.

* * OUR present No. is printed in entirely new type, and we trust by this, and other improvements in contemplation, to make our subscribers participants in the result to which their steady support is contributing.

R. C. W.—If our correspondent will refer to our file, he will find that the NEWSPAPER PRESS was the only paper of its class which did not mention the idle rumours.

F. B.—No. We can only exchange with literary papers.

THOMAS WELTON.—Send your present address; we know of something that will suit you.

Obituary.

BOURDIN, GUSTAVE, formerly editor of the *Figaro*, at Paris.

FITZGERALD, R. A., editor of the *Wexford People*.

KNOX, GEORGE HENRY, sub-editor of the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, Dec. 25th.

LANE, SAMUEL, Mining Lane reporter of the *Public Ledger*, January 5th.

LARSEN, PETER, editor of the *West Schlesische Zeitung*, at Haderleben.

ORMODY, BARTHOLOMEW, editor of the literary periodical *Corvina*, at Pesth.

ROBERTS, G., of the *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette*.

STAFFORD, C. P., reporter to the *Bombay Times*, "the first professional shorthand writer sent to India," at Kurrachee.

VON DORBIEN, JOHAN, special military correspondent of the *Altona Nachrichten*, of Hamburg, during the wars of 1864 in Denmark and 1866 in Germany.

WOLF, FRANTZ, proprietor of the *Bayerische Landes Zeitung*, at Munich.

BANKRUPTS.

REED, HENRY DRAPER, New Cross, Kent, writer for the press.
WEBB, ROBERT BARKER, Tavistock Street, Westminster, advertising agent.
WESCOTT, WALTER, Dawlish, newspaper publisher.
THOMSON, EDWARD, Staines, journalist.

THE ILLUSTRATED MIDLAND NEWS.

PRICE THREEPENCE.

A First Class Pictorial Newspaper for the Country.

From the NEWSPAPER PRESS.

"The staff of the paper is excellent. Mr. Joseph Hatton, the author of 'Bitter Sweets,' 'Christopher Kenrick' (which, by-the-bye, is a Press novel), is the editor and responsible proprietor. Mr. Edward Legge, whose graceful rhymes appear occasionally in the metropolitan magazines, is the sub-editor. Mr. Walter Maynard contributes a serial story; Blanchard Jerrold (Fin-Bec) a paper on continental manufacture. Mr. Hatton, who is also the editor of the 'Gentleman's Magazine,' and the editor and one of the proprietors of 'Borrow's Worcester Journal,' resigns his post as editor of the latter journal, and Mr. Legge has also left the 'Faithful City' to cast his fortunes with the new venture. Need we say that we wish this 'novelty in provincial journalism' every success."

"Similar in form, and equal in style, to the 'Illustrated London News,' and published at only threepence, the new journal deserves to be a great success."—*Birmingham Daily Post*.

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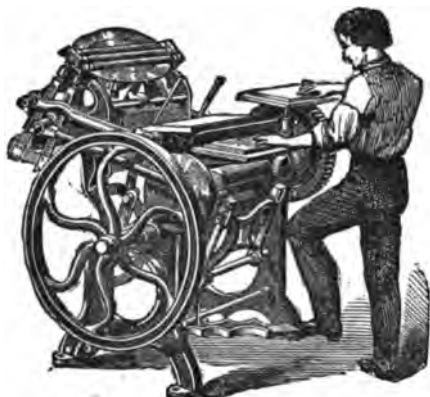
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TESTIMONIALS.

31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

Messrs. H. S. Cropper and Co.

Gentlemen,—We have pleasure in informing you that the "Minerva" Printing Machine, supplied to us about two months ago, gives us entire satisfaction. The simplicity of its arrangement, beauty of construction, and excellence of workmanship, combined with its other qualifications, justify all that you told us in its favour. The ease of its motion, and its great speed, are important features in the "Minerva;" whilst the freedom from danger in working assists in rendering it a very desirable machine.

Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

Messrs. Cropper and Co., Nottingham.

Gentlemen,—We most willingly give our testimony to the value and efficiency of your "Minerva" Machine, especially with regard to its speed and economy. We consider it the most useful time-saving machine that has come under our notice.

We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
CURTIS AND BEAMISH.

6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

Dear Sirs,—We have pleasure in stating that the "Minerva" Machine supplied to us gives satisfaction in every respect.

As a Machine for Cards and Small Jobs, we consider it unequalled, both in quality of work and the ease by which Jobs can be started.

Your Machine deserves a large sale.

Yours truly (for M'CORQUODALE and Co.),
D. CULROSS.

Since the above testimonial was given, Messrs. M'Corquodale and Co. have ordered a second machine.

Messrs. Cropper and Co.

Halifax, 23rd October, 1867.

Gentlemen,—The "Minerva" gives entire satisfaction. Every movement is smooth and easy, and the machine may, on this account, be run at a very high speed without danger. The distribution is perfect, and the form is rolled more evenly than could be done by hand. We are very much pleased with it.

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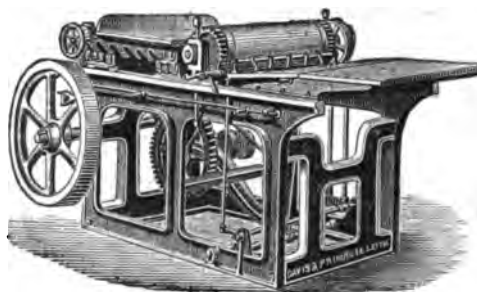


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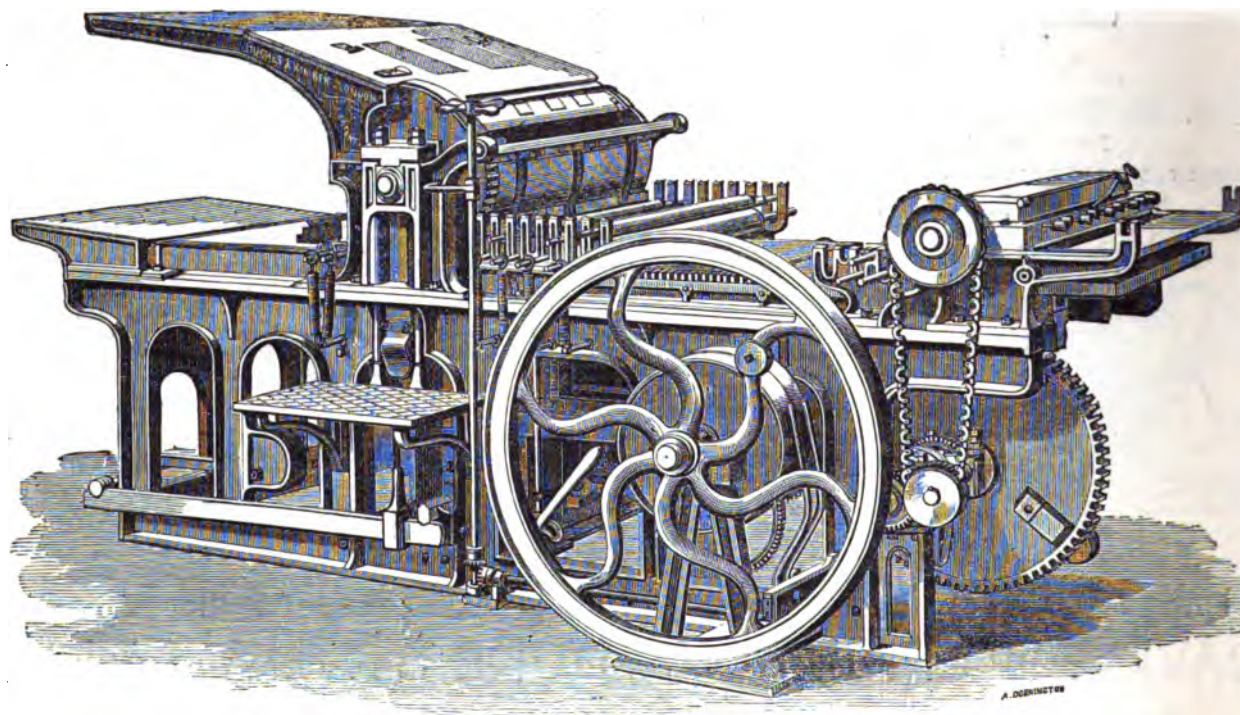


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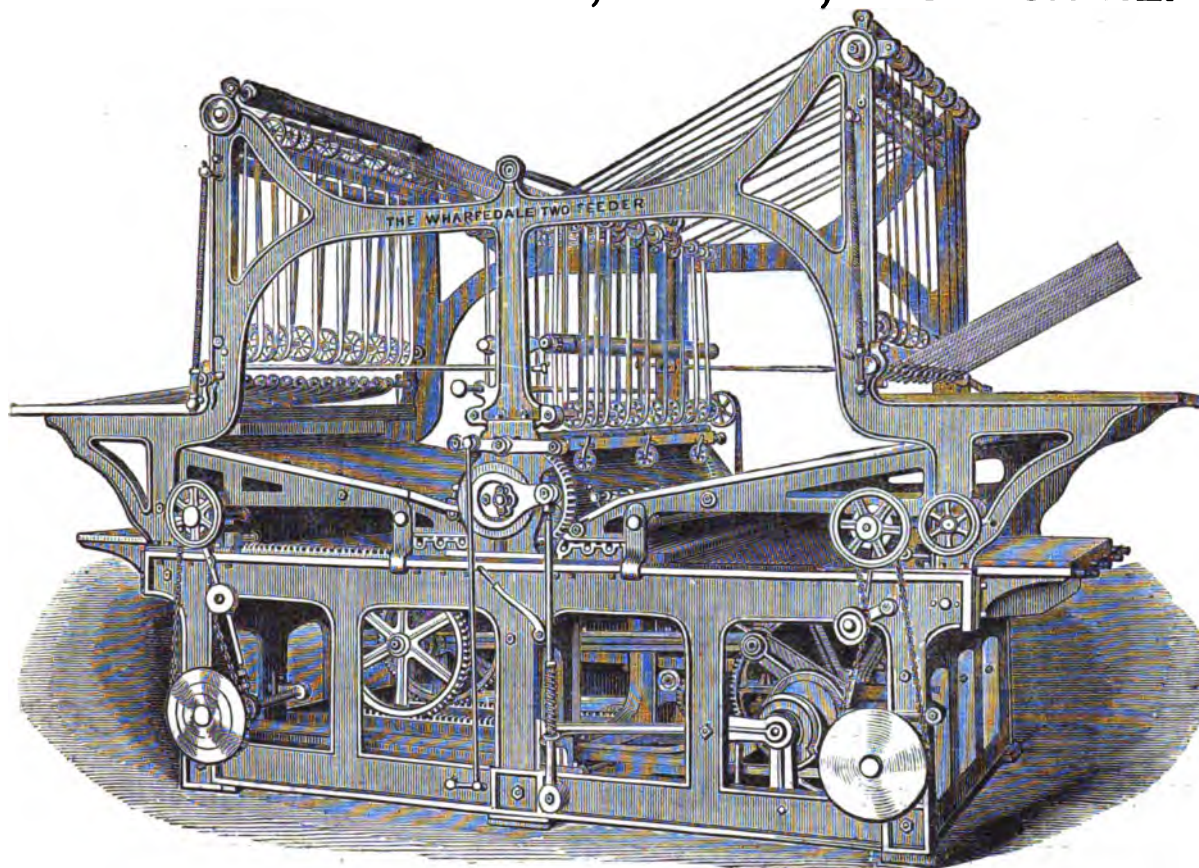
1. **FACILITY IN MAKING READY.**—Owing to the great simplicity of the mechanical arrangements, and entire absence of complex movements, the stone can be adjusted with perfect ease—in fact, the time required is scarcely more than on an ordinary Press, thus enabling short numbers to be worked with economy.
2. **THE ROLLERS** being made from the very best French leather, great uniformity of pressure is obtained, causing so little damage to the work on the stone as to allow as many as 20,000 impressions to be taken from a single transfer. In many cases the quantity printed has far exceeded that number.
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4. **THE INKING APPARATUS** is entirely self-acting, and the damping as nearly so as experience warrants. If desired, the damping can be entirely self-acting; but it is open to many objections, especially in the fine descriptions of colour work. The supply of ink is varied at will with the greatest nicety.
5. **REGISTERING COLOUR WORK.**—In registering colour work, points on the Cylinder and guides on the Feed-table are used; the Cylinder stopping at every revolution sufficient time to enable the layer-on to point with the greatest accuracy. The position of the Feed-table and the stopping of the Cylinder are peculiar to this Machine alone.
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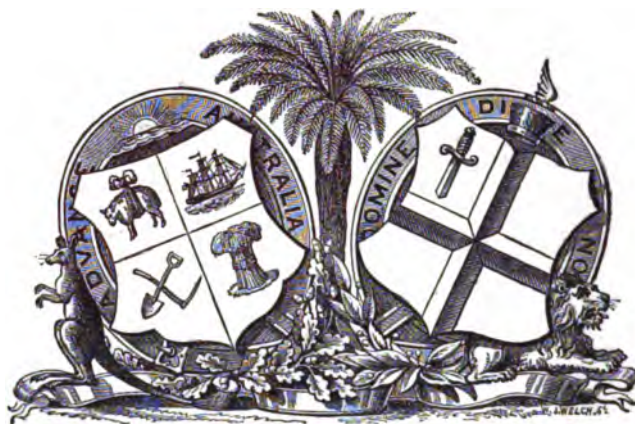
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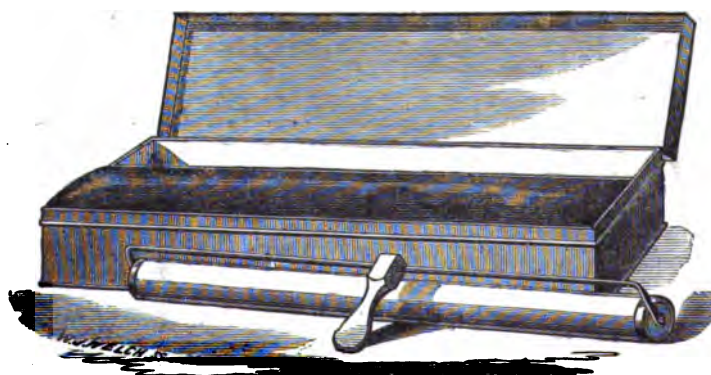
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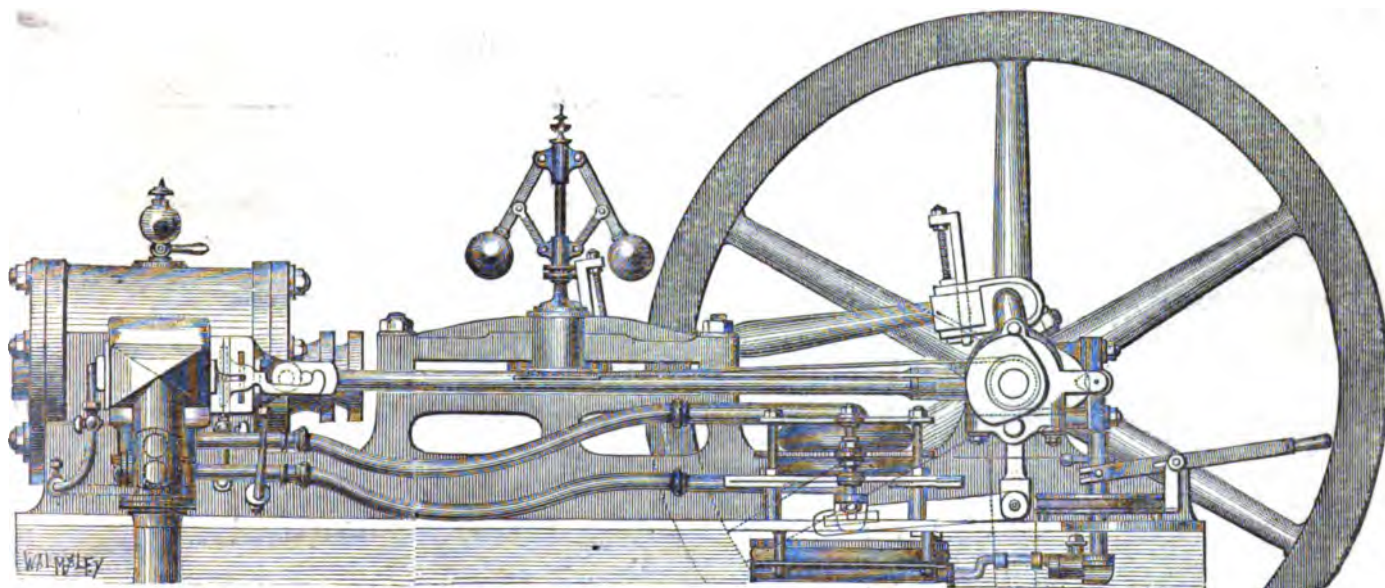
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THE loathsome character of the trial which has been pending in the Divorce Court, has been not a little aggravated by the minuteness of detail in which the reporters of some of our most widely circulated daily papers have thought fit to indulge. It is only lately that the editorial columns of these papers were righteously jubilant over the raid made by the Police upon the indecent publishers of Holywell Street, and the prompt suppression of the *Ferret*; yet we venture to affirm that few of the confiscated publications, and neither of the only two numbers of the *Ferret* which were allowed to live, contained anything so *dirty* as the reports published in the journals we refer to. And there is this difference between the two cases to be borne in mind—that a corrupt nature only would seek out and find the foul prints kept in the back parlours of the Holywell Street dens; while the morning paper, unchallenged and trusted, suddenly unfolds its disgusting details in the very centre of the family circles of our English homes. The future comments that these papers may make on the "Corrupt Literature" of the period, will of course be treated as pharisaical—the direct injury they may do to public morality can only be conjectural—but the future mischief they are bringing upon themselves can admit of no doubt. In an age suspected of increasing pruriency, which has been masked under the mild term, a "love of the sensational," the publication of every disgusting detail no doubt brings a plentiful harvest of purchasers, ever on the look out for a "racy" case; but there is an old fable about killing the goose for the golden egg, and within our own circle, we know of several instances wherein the morning supply of these journals has been peremptorily countermanded by old and regular country subscribers, who do not choose that such particulars should fall under the eyes of the innocent junior branches of their families, or the domestics of their establishments. Putting the matter therefore upon the low level of pecuniary or commercial consideration, apart from the loss of character to journalism as a great moral agency, we consider the course pursued by two or three of what have been hitherto looked upon as highly respectable journals, as utterly suicidal to their own interests, and highly injurious to the interests of the Press. If the mischief stop at the falling off in their own circulation among the better classes of society, it may not be amiss that they should receive such a sharp and practical reproof in their greed

for an extra street sale; and we are satisfied that the respectable provincial papers, which, as a rule, so far as our observation goes, have suppressed the more offensive matters of this most offensive case, will be the gainers. Country families will again take their county papers, conducted with care and decorum, in preference to the dangerous London journal, which defiles with such disgusting filth the columns to which they have so long been accustomed to look for the highest wisdom of the metropolis.

THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PRESS.

IV.—THE SUB-EDITOR.

WHO is he, that, like the sergeant-major of a regiment, must be first in the newspaper office, and the last out of it? Who is he that is troubled with ideas as to what the newspaper must contain, and at the same time has ever present before him the exact number of columns "open?" The publisher and the advertising clerk announce that the "ads." are coming in fast. The editor tells the "sub" that there is some very important correspondence, and that he expects a most important debate in the "House" that night, which will necessitate an additional leader. Foreign news comes pouring in. Every porter and railway messenger brings piles of greasy and half illegible flimsy. The reporters announce a fire or two, and more than one interesting meeting. The "printer" talks exultingly of so much standing matter, until the poor dazed "sub" is at his wits' ends. Newspaper columns are not elastic; proprietors, except in rare instances, do not look with favour upon supplements. So the poor hard worked "sub" has to pare down the redundant expressions of the valued contributor, beg the editor to omit the extra leader, snub the "liners," or, what is to them worse, cut down the ten sides of specious "flimsy" to as many lines. He quietly tells the reporters to keep down the influential meetings, and in short "boil down," condense, pare and omit the overwhelming news of the day into a readable and compact form. Nor is this all. When his work is finished and his coadjutors have departed—the leader writers have long since disappeared—the editor is having at some late restaurant, or may be at his club, that delicately grilled chop and kidney prior to leaving for home—a stray reporter is perhaps only visible, and he is in a very unpleasant humour at having the last take, and that unusually long, when down comes Mr. Printer with a face as long as his own column, announcing that they are two columns "over set."

Then the poor brain-tired "sub" has to wade through yards of proofs, and decide what shall be omitted and what cut down, until he has made the columns and the "matter" to fill them equal. Then he may light his cigar, as the rumble of the "hoist" tells of the forms going down to machine, and go home to dream of something extraordinary being omitted from the paper altogether.

Yet the sub-editor does all this, and gets no credit from anybody. His silent supervision is not recognised by the general public. The editors and leader writers are understood. The musical and dramatic critics are known by name. The reporters are seen, but the poor "sub" is unknown. Yet he is the builder of the newspaper, the consulting clerk of the works, upon whom the appearance of the paper mainly depends. He it is who receives the crude ideas of Robinson with respect to that excellent institution for the reception of Incurable Dyspepsia. He places those ideas before the public in an attractive and in an intelligible form. The editor and the public congratulate Robinson, they overlook Mr. Peyston Cesars, as Shirley Brooks has happily named the sub-editor, who has brought rare skill and a keen discernment to the assistance of the unknown Robinson, whose ideas under other management would have been killed in the bud. Mr. Robinson accepts the compliment, and walks away under the impression that he is a clever fellow after all.

Up to a very recent period the newspaper sub-editor was only found in the metropolis. Even in the largest country towns his office was combined with that of the chief reporter; or, as is now frequently the case on papers of some standing, the editor also acts as "sub," and takes the entire management of the

contents of the paper. The latter plan has but few advantages to recommend it. The man who has to search into precedents, to dive into matters of currency or international law, to study the laws of population, to regulate the local governors and set a few M.P.'s right in their facts and figures, loses all zest for pasting little paragraphs on slips of copy paper, and placing attractive and neat little side heads to every "par," so as to give an appearance of freshness to the clippings. Thackeray tells us that when Philip Firmin went boldly in to earn his bread at the "profession of poverty," he took great delight in destroying the eternal sameness of the padding of his ideal "Pall Mall Gazette," and considered a neat par something to be proud of. The paper that has Thackeray's name, and professes to be a paper "written by gentlemen for gentlemen," rather avoids the side heads which Philip, like all good sub-editors, took such delight in.

The country sub-editor must know every one, and the peculiar and individual relations of every one within the county. The inevitable Smith or Jones, who gets into a squabble and figures in a London police court, he must recognise, and point him out to his fellow townsmen. The brilliant essayist who is startling the world, the rising musician, or the new judge, must be pointed out as one who "was honourably connected with our town or county," if he only went to school within either. Their domestic connections must be also known, and all and everything relating to the locality kept at the fingers' ends, literally and figuratively.

The dull smoky room in which the sub-editor usually works is half filled with partly cut newspapers, discarded contributions, a few spare blue books, and a well thumbed dictionary. There you will assuredly find a gazetteer, Lempriere, the Men of the Time, and sometimes Maunders's well-known Treasuries of Knowledge. The desk is an ink-stained, gum-bespattered, paste-daubed piece of furniture. The proverbial scissors are discarded for a sharp pen-knife, and gum has usurped the place of paste. The waste paper basket gapes with a wide mouth, and there is a general tone of ordered slovenliness about the sub-editor's room which marks its individuality. Look at that pigeon hole, crammed full of papers "reserved for consideration," or for the editor's reference. There is also not a few good letters waiting their turn, and you will see them when there is a lull in the news market, which ebbs and flows like the tide of life itself. The trained "sub" seems to know intuitively, as it were, the very place to look for suitable "copy" in every paper. He passes by with a glance the "padding" of other "subs." He seizes triumphantly every tit-bit, and as he slaughters the papers, wonders if everybody reads all the papers and wades through the miles of columns which he so carefully prepares. He is disturbed from his reverie to argue the point with some irate contributor, whose manuscript has been "cut down" or rejected, or to explain the meaning of some "par" which a subscriber persists in being meant for him. The printer wants copy and he must be kept employed. Nothing must be left out. The reporters are away, and their parcels have missed, and when they come they request the "dear sub" as a favour to look up some quotation or spell some scientific name right which they have imperfectly caught or remembered, for he is supposed to have all the knowledge of the world, to know the "ologies" and the "isms," and to be equally at home in the mysteries of the speculum analysis or the fine arts. He can only aspire to perfection. His highest aim is to omit nothing, and his greatest disgrace is to proclaim to the world that a very important article, or report, has been omitted for want of space. Useful and unknown, the sub-editor deserves well of newspaper men and newspaper readers, yet how rarely he meets with his deserts.

MUNIFICENT OFFER.—It is stated that the proprietors of the *North British Daily Mail* have munificently offered to subscribe £500 towards the instituting of a society having for its object the providing of healthy, cheap, and decent dwellings for the working classes of Glasgow.

WATERFORD ELECTION.—We regret to hear that Mr. Magrath, the proprietor of the *Waterford Citizen*, was seriously assaulted by a mob during the progress of the Waterford election on the 25th.

THE PLYMOUTH STANDARD will not, as has been reported, cease to be published in a few weeks from now. It is an old-established Conservative paper.

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

XVI.—THE SHEFFIELD AND ROTHERHAM INDEPENDENT.

THIS notable paper, of the West Riding of Yorkshire, founded half a century ago, reached its jubilee on the 11th of December last. It was reared at a time when the late James Montgomery's once popular newspaper—the *Sheffield Iris*—had become neutral in politics, and a new Liberal organ was required. In the course of time the *Independent* took the position which the *Iris* had formerly held—that of the leading newspaper in Sheffield. The first proprietor was Mr. H. A. Bacon, who, after continuing the publication for ten years, disposed of the copy-right to the late Mr. Robert Leader, father of the senior member of the present firm of Leader and Sons. The *Independent* was commenced to advocate Liberal principles. At that time, though the newspaper stamp was 4d., it did not free the paper in the post office, without being "franked" by the name of a member of Parliament, and the *Independent* was franked by the celebrated Henry Brougham. Its motto was "*pro deo, patria, et lege*," and its introductory address was a vigorous attack on the Ministers of the day. On the 1st January, 1830, the *Independent*, under the proprietorship of the late Robert Leader, to whom it had then been transferred, was published; and it is now conducted by his descendants—Robert Leader, John Daniel Leader, and Robert Eadon Leader, B.A.

We extract the following from an editorial address of the present proprietors, published at the commencement of this year:—"The present senior editor can say that during the thirty-two years that the *Independent* was a weekly paper, 1830 to 1861, not a single number issued from the press to which he did not more or less contribute; and during the last eight years of daily journalism there have been very few numbers in which he has not had a hand. This is a record of continuous work such as few probably have the privilege to make; and the writer has still the greater privilege to add that, though he cannot expect long to continue the same closeness of attention, he has the satisfaction to see the duty devolve on the abler and more highly trained hands of his sons. The *Independent* of 1830, like that of 1819, started with a distinct profession of faith. Reform, the repeal of the corn laws, the abolition of monopolies, free trade, local self-government, economy, and fairness in the raising and expenditure of taxes; national education, the abolition of slavery, an improved colonial system,—these were the mottoes with which the *Independent* commenced its career, and these are the trophies which we can proudly recount on this fortieth anniversary."

The *Independent* became a daily paper on the 1st October, 1861, on the repeal of the paper duty. It has a large and influential circulation, not only in its own extensive district, but generally throughout the northern and midland counties. It has fought, in the courts of law, several "Press" battles, arising out of the law of libel, in reference to the non-right of the Press to report the proceedings of public meetings. It has also, within the last few years, in the interests of the Press, established the right of reporting proceedings in bankruptcy, including proceedings before the bankruptcy registrars. Such right was for many years disputed, but was finally established by a decision of the Court of Exchequer, in May, 1866, in the case of "Ryalls v Leader," full particulars of which will be found in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*, vol. II., page 68.

E.

NEW PREMISES FOR THE "NORTHERN WHIG."

A PROPOSAL was lately made by the proprietors of *The Northern Whig*, for the Belfast Corn Exchange, hall, offices, and entire premises. The offer was submitted to the meeting of shareholders and accepted; possession to be given on the 1st of May. This fine range of buildings in Victoria Street and Gordon Street was erected in 1851-2 by an incorporated company, for the purposes of a Corn Exchange and public news-room, with a range of merchants' offices beneath the hall. The premises were built in the most substantial and durable style, entirely of cut Scotch stone, on piled foundations, and fireproof. They were completed

in 1852, and the Corn Exchange has since then been held weekly in the large hall, which has also been let for entertainments and public meetings. From various causes the weekly exchange did not of late years fulfil the expectation of the local corn-trade, and had but a limited attendance. The premises are singularly well adapted for the purpose to which they will now be converted—the offices of *The Northern Whig*—as they are close to the new Telegraph Offices and the Post Office, and also near the new Central Railway Terminus. The proprietors of *The Northern Whig* have also taken in perpetuity the adjacent property in Gordon Street and Cotton Court, extending the full length of the Corn Exchange, on which a range of buildings will be erected to contain all the new printing machines, steam-engines, and other improved appliances of a printing business on the largest scale. They have ordered a *triple* set of Wharfedale Newspaper Printing Machines from Messrs. Dawson and Sons of Otley, and duplicate engine boilers, &c., so as to make the whole establishment complete with all the newest improvements. When completed next summer, the new premises of *The Northern Whig* will not, in extent, interior accommodation, or external appearance, be equalled by any newspaper establishment in Ireland, and by very few in the United Kingdom.

NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.

THE half-yearly meeting of members was held at the offices, 24, Cecil Street, Strand, on Feb. 12th; Mr. George Godwin, F.R.S., in the chair.

The report of the committee for the half-year ending 31st of December last stated that the institution is progressing satisfactorily, although it is necessary to reiterate the expression of regret contained in the last report, that the number of members remains stationary. The roll-book of the society shows an aggregate of 238 members, of whom 167 are resident in London and its suburbs and 71 in the provinces. The diminution of eight members between the two periods is partly accounted for by the fact that the names of several have been struck off the list by reason of the non-payment of their arrears of subscription. Four members have died within the year, two of whom resided in London and two in the country. To the widows of the latter liberal grants have been made.

Mr. Mould moved, and Mr. Charley, M.P., seconded, the adoption of the report.

The Chairman, referring to the item of office expenditure, observed that the first impression which must strike anyone on looking at the balance-sheet was the extremely moderate amount of the sum appearing under that head.

Mr. Bee drew attention to the items for stationery, printing, and postage, and, as a member of the executive committee, explained that there had been a slight increase in these amounts, but that had been rendered necessary by the committee having had to make fresh arrangements for the annual dinner in June last, consequent on the recall of Mr. Reverdy Johnson as minister in London from the United States.

The Chairman enquired what steps had been taken with reference to the plate recently engraved by Mr. T. Vernon from Murillo's picture of the Pool of Bethesda, in the possession of Colonel Tomline, M.A., and which that gentleman had presented to the fund.

The Secretary (Mr. Taunton) stated that measures were being taken for the legal acquisition of the copyright by the trustees, with the view of issuing the engraving to the public for the benefit of the fund.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Godwin closed the proceedings.

THE NEW PRESS REGULATIONS IN FRANCE.

The following is the text of the circular issued under date of Jan. 28th, to the Procureurs-General of the Imperial Courts:—

"A complete régime governing the Press implies three different orders of arrangement—those relating to competency, those relating to the conditions of publication, and to the police regulations of printing. The law which the Government has just submitted to the Corps Législatif refers in no way to repression nor to conditions of publication; it only deals with the question of competency. It is, therefore, indispensable that we should indicate to you in what spirit you should apply those regulations which, having a character essentially political, ought, as long as they are in force, to be adapted to the fundamental principles which govern all our proceedings. It is only possible to give but general indications. You will have to determine for yourself in each particular case the course which shall appear to you the most prudent. In all publications you will distinguish between that part which is intended for publicity and that which is devoted to polemics. You will carefully watch the scrupulous observance of all the laws which tend to insure the honesty and exactitude of that which obtains publicity. Thus you should not allow a fanciful account to be substituted for the official report of the Chambers, nor that an *acte d'accusation* should be published prematurely, nor that a journal should be exposed for sale until it has complied with the precedent material conditions, nor that a *communiqué* should be refused insertion, nor that by any irregularity there should be any infringement of the material regulations to which all publications are subjected. In such matters there is no question of the freedom of the human mind, nor of the rights of conscience, but simply of good faith and loyalty, of respect for the laws. In a case where publicity has appeared contrary to the public interest—for instance, when it deals with the internal deliberations of the Council of State—you will not allow the established prohibitions to be violated. In the part of the paper devoted to polemics you will distinguish the articles which are the expression of opinions, of theories, and of individual doctrines, or which contain criticisms of the acts of Ministers from articles which may assimilate to real acts. However reprehensible the first mentioned may appear to you to be, whatever may be the form in which they may be produced, fitting or otherwise, moderate or impassioned, excessive or restrained, you need not regard them at all. You will not tolerate the last mentioned unless they are in all respects conformable to the law. The reason for this distinction is obvious. There is no crime of opinion. That which is material can do nothing against that which is immaterial; error has no other judge—can have no other master or conqueror—than truth. To an opinion one can only oppose an opinion. To an *acte*, on the contrary, an act can be opposed to punish or prevent it, according as it is contrary to or in conformity with the precepts of justice and the exigencies of social order. Consequently, you will search out every newspaper article which, containing an offence at common law, may be considered as an act committed rather than as an opinion expressed. In the first rank among articles having this character you will place those which contain outrages against the Emperor, apologies for crimes or legal offences, or direct provocations to disobedience of the laws, to commit crimes or offences, and particularly to seduce soldiers from their duty and the obedience which they owe to their chiefs. For the same reason you will give cordial assistance to citizens who may complain of defamation or attacks upon their private lives. Before the tribunals you will insist strongly that slanderers shall be visited not so much by imprisonment as by heavy pecuniary damages to those assailed. It is to be regretted that this mode of repression, the only efficacious means against slanderers, should not yet have been introduced into our judicial customs. Neither in the streets nor in the newspapers, nor in public meetings, must you permit any acts of a nature seriously to compromise material order or to trouble social peace. Until the *Cour d'Assises* shall be invested with the function of dealing with Press offences you will not hesitate, should it become necessary, to apply the existing jurisdiction. The course of justice must not be interrupted by a project of reform, and so long as a law has not been abrogated it remains in full force. I am certain, M. le Procureur-General, that you will zealously assist us in the difficult mission we have accepted. You will be encouraged in so doing by a sense of your responsibility, and also by the thought that there is no glory to equal that of labouring for the consolidation and the defence of free government.

"Receive, M. the Keeper of the Seals,
"Minister of Justice and Religion,
"EMILE OLLIVIER."

A NEW PENNY "WEEKLY" started on the 5th ult., under the title of *The Matrimonial Gazette and Advertiser*. As we have not seen a copy, we do not know what is its special "mission."

REVIEWS.

Index to THE TIMES Newspaper, 1869, Autumnal Quarter: October 1st to December 31st. London: Samuel Palmer, 20, Catherine Street, Strand.

THIS is the eighth quarterly volume of Mr. Palmer's laborious work, each part of which contains some thirty thousand references to the contents of the "leading journal"—and, by reason, to the current news of all the papers. So patiently and carefully is it compiled that we have a most complete classification of subjects, lists of births, marriages and deaths, and references to advertisements for next of kin, &c. The editor does not assume too much when he says, "Without it *The Times*, though the most gigantic engine of the Press, dies daily; but, with it, it becomes the never fading memorial of the world's history—the unfailing reference book for all classes and societies." The difficulty arising from the separate pagination of each number of *The Times* is got over by a most ingenious method, so that there is not the slightest difficulty in referring to the exact page, and even column, in which any particular paragraph appeared. This is not the first—we fancy it is the third—attempt to index current history as recorded in *The Times*; but we consider it the most systematic, complete, and deserving of permanent success. The arrangement is so perfect and minute that it contains exact references to all the Parliamentary Debates; Civil, Criminal, Divorce, and Police Trials and Cases; Markets; Court Circular; Bankruptcies; Foreign News; Naval, Military, Ship, and Mercantile, Intelligence; City, Banking, and Railway Reports; Inquests, Accidents, Murders, and Suicides; Wills; Leading Articles, Reviews, and Literary, Scientific, and Political Papers, all systematically arranged "under their different heads," as Ben Jonson says. The labour must be immense, but from the way in which the work is done, it is evidently a labour of love, and we hope will meet more substantial reward than the expressions of approval which it must elicit from every one who looks carefully through it. And, as it must be so indispensable to so large a number of literary, political and professional men,—in fact, to the legion of *Times* readers, and, still more, of people who cannot afford time to read *The Times* thoroughly,—or to read it at all, we have no doubt but that Mr. Palmer will reap the reward he has so richly deserved.

As specimens of the completeness of the work, we find in the three months' volume before us that the heading "SPAIN" is followed by three columns of special references: "POLICE NEWS" gives upwards of eighteen columns of alphabetical references to cases; "BANKRUPTCIES," fifty-six columns; "COURT NEWS," one column of headings; "COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL" (naming each subject of debate), one column; and yet, so minute is the analysis, that, taking at random one page, we find, in consecutive succession, references to "Spalding Club of Aberdeen, Dissolution of," "Speaker, The, on the Church," "Speaker's Chaplain, Appointment of," "Spirits and Bell-ringing," "Spirits, Parliamentary Return of the Consumption of," &c. Surely never was such an index compiled since the oft-quoted law reporter, making an index to "Cases," put down "Great Mind, A—Mr. Laing"—and the indefatigable law student, turning to the page indicated, found it recorded that Mr. Laing, the Bow Street magistrate, "had a great mind to commit the prisoner for trial."

The Newspaper Press Directory, and Advertisement Guide for 1870. London: C. Mitchell & Co., Red Lion Court.

We have nothing to add to past notices of this indispensable work. It is of the average merit of its twenty-four predecessors. If no new features are introduced, no old ones are omitted. The publishers, referring to the year 1846, remark:—

"The advertisement and paper duties were unrepealed, the compulsory stamp, and the legal restrictions as to registrations, &c., hampered and annoyed the newspaper proprietors in every way. In 1853, the advertisement duty was repealed, the compulsory stamp followed in 1855, and the last fiscal restriction, the paper duty, was removed in 1861; and in the last session of Parliament, the Act 32 & 33 Vict., c. 24, obviates the necessity of registration at Somerset House. With each successive change the Press has increased in influence, power, and numbers, and can now, unchallenged, claim for itself the title of the 'Fourth Estate.' There is not now a town of any importance in the United Kingdom without its local organ, and all the great cities and towns have their daily papers, prepared with as

much care, and exercising in their several districts of circulation as much influence as the leviathan dailies of the metropolis."

The daily papers are distributed throughout the country in the following proportions:—

ENGLAND:		Southampton 1	
Birmingham [... .. 2		Sunderland 1	
Bolton 1		WALES:	
Bradford 4		Cardiff 1	
Brighton 1		Swansea 1	
Bristol 4		SCOTLAND:	
Darlington 1		Dundee 2	
Exeter 3		Edinburgh 3	
Hull 2		Glasgow 5	
Leeds 4		Greenock 1	
Leicester 1		IRELAND:	
Liverpool 6		Belfast 2	
London... .. 18		Cork 4	
Manchester 4		Dublin 8	
Middlesborough 1		CHANNEL ISLANDS:	
Newcastle 5		Jersey 1	
Nottingham 3			
Oldham... .. 1			
Plymouth 3			
Sheffield 8			
Shields 2			

As some of our readers may be puzzled to make up eighteen daily papers in London, we may mention that the list includes the *Commercial Daily List*, *Lloyd's List*, the *Public Ledger* (if these are admissible, why not the Customs Entry List and the Post Office Mail List?), the *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette*, *L'International*, and the *Clerkenwell News*.

NEWSPAPER MANIA.

I AM a very proper among old books—the odour of "must" and mould which comes from decaying vellum is an odour of sanctity to me. I am as well known to the keepers of old book-shops in Gray's Inn Lane and Russell Court, as was Mr. Brownlow, the benefactor of poor Oliver Twist; I am a mental moth devouring the contents of the king's collection, but leaving the material uninjured. Oh! it is fine—the rummage of a heap of old books, pamphlets, or prints. Talk of gold seeking! I snap my fingers at it! How can it compare with the excitement of turning over a dust-buried heap of books? If you do find gold, why it is a thing in the hands of millions; but turn up a first edition, a rare pamphlet, an autograph title page, an unedited MS., and what a secret pride you are suddenly elated with! Gold, indeed! give me the discovery of some treasure in old vellum, black letter, and moth-eaten paper! Not that I despise modern antiquities. The antiquities of newspapers go back only two centuries—for I never saw, or met anyone who has seen the *Acta Diurna* of the Romans and Dr. Johnson—but the feel of the woolly old progenitors of the English Press is pleasant to the touch. I do not care so much for the "Newspaper Pamphlets" of the Civil Wars, as for the genuine and unmistakable "Newspapers" of the eighteenth century. Of these, I have been for twenty years an insatiable collector; one copy of each suffices me—I don't care for the contents, I want the specimen; and, as perhaps there are others of a like taste among the readers of the NEWSPAPER PRESS, I will tell my experience of the early curiosities which are afloat beyond the sacred stores of the British Museum. If you want to see a very good collection of newspaper mummies, you must go to the Museum and glorify over their preservation—if you want to possess a few, I will tell you how to get them.

It is a mistake to suppose that our earliest or most famous old English papers are at a fabulous price. Original *Spectators*, *Tatlers*, *Athenian Mercuries*, and *British Apollos*, can be got for about sixpence per clean copy. I never saw an original *Guardian* for sale. I lately bought the second volume of *L'Estrange's Observer* (1680), well bound, with title and index, for fifteen shillings, and believe I could get one or two more copies at the price if I wanted them.

I have a volume of the *British Apollo* (1708-11), bound, for which I gave twelve shillings—of the *Bath Chronicle* (1770), which cost me half-a-sovereign—and of the *General Evening*

Post (1781-7), for which I paid thirty shillings. The *Morning Post* for 1809, in a thick folio volume, cost thirty-eight shillings, and the *British Antislavery Monitor*, Vols. I. and II. (1811-12), twenty-five shillings.

In single copies *London Gazette*s of 1700 can be picked up for sixpence each—*Weekly Journal* (1722-3), fourpence—*Daily Postboy* (1728), eightpence—*Daily Courant* (1728-9), tenpence—*Flying Post* (1728-31), a shilling—*Postman* (1728), fourpence—*London Daily Post* (1735), sixpence—*Jacobites' Journal* (1748), a shilling—*Westminster Journal* (1773-93), threepence—*Public Advertiser* (1775-9), fourpence—*Lloyd's Evening Post* (1777), sixpence—*Old British Spy* (1778-83), threepence—*Gazetteer* (1778-89), fourpence—*London Evening Post* (1779-90), twopence—*Morning Post* (1781), a shilling—*E. Johnson's British Gazette* (1782-99), fourpence—*Daily Advertiser* (1786), eightpence—*Owen's Weekly Chronicle* (1787), tenpence—*Craftsman* (1787-92), sixpence.

Of provincial papers, I find the following prices quoted in the dealers' lists:—*Kentish Gazette* (1771), 5 Numbers, 4s., or one shilling per copy—*Chelmsford Chronicle* (1783-8), two shillings each—*Hampshire Chronicle* (1790), a shilling—*Portsmouth Gazette* (1794), tenpence—and *Public Register or Freeman's Journal* (Dublin, 1786), "curious," half-a-crown.

The papers of the early part of the current century are represented in the lists by:—*Bell's Weekly Messenger* (1809-14), "an almost complete file, with reports and plans of the battles of the Peninsular, and many historical incidents, open to offer"—*Courier* (1809), a shilling—*British Press* (1812), eightpence—*Examiner* (1812), "curious," a shilling—*Times* (1812), sixpence—*Observer* (1821), fourpence—and *Sunday Times* (1825), sixpence.

The "Newes Books" of the Civil Wars, come into the hands of a different class of dealers, and are to be sought for in the regular catalogues of some of the "secondhand" booksellers, but the "single copies," of which I have quoted the ruling prices, are to be found in the strange stores of the curiosity dealer—among old prints, Roman urns, copper tokens, early play-bills, and tattered tapestry.

Of Mr. Fennell's reprints and *fac-similes* of early newspapers, it is scarcely within the province of this article to speak, although they may be deserving of a few remarks on some future occasion.

BOOK-WORM.

PARLIAMENTARY REPORTS.

(From the *Illustrated Midland News*).

PARLIAMENT has met. For the next six months, readers of the journals will find their literary sustenance in the reports of the proceedings of our legislators. Of course everybody likes to read the Parliamentary Intelligence (do they though?); but why do not the conductors of the great journals like the *Times*, *Standard*, and *Daily Telegraph*, order their Parliamentary reporting staff to condense the speeches more, and give them to the world in a shape that would cause them to be read? We have mentioned the *Telegraph*; but that paper ought hardly to be included in the category, for its reports are comparatively short, but quite long enough for every practical purpose; and its readers are furnished with an admirable column-narrative of all that takes place in both Houses. Country readers of the London papers, with a few exceptions, find little to interest them in the Parliamentary Reports as they are now done; and they cry out at the omission of the paragraphs with which, in the *Recess*, they are liberally supplied.

MR. P. L. SIMMONDS commenced, with the new year, a monthly newspaper entitled *The Journal of Applied Science*. Having had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Simmonds for five and twenty years as an animated cyclopaedia of scientific knowledge, we feel satisfied that his new journal will be highly advantageous to the useful, industrial and ornamental arts and manufactures, with which his connection with all the principal exhibitions of Europe have rendered him eminently familiar.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, February 24.

THE contents of the new Press law are now thoroughly known, the authentic text of the bill having been published and copied by all the principal journals. Its two most prominent features are: 1.—That all offences of the Press shall be tried by a jury, and 2.—That in cases of libel, or wounding the honour of officials for acts committed by them in the discharge of their duty, the proof of truth is admissible. At first sight these, no doubt, appear to be extremely liberal concessions, and it must be confessed they form the preliminary conditions of a very passable state of things; but they do not go far enough, and some disappointment is felt after the great expectations held out and entertained. With regard to trial by jury, it is to be feared that the importance of the concession will be paralysed without a radical reform and thorough alteration in the organisation of the juries, as at present constituted for other purposes in France, and not a word is said of any such change being contemplated. But in another respect the new *Projet de loi* labours under a sad insufficiency, as it retains the famous paragraph about inciting to hatred and disgust of the powers that be, an elastic handle for reactionary Governments, but a nail in the coffin for free discussion. Within the last few years France has had more than enough of this "hatred and contempt" clause, and it is a great pity that the new bill should not have expunged this absurdity. It is to be hoped that in passing through the ordeal of the Legislative bodies, it will be struck out by unanimous votes of the two Houses. Then again, another very dangerous clause of the old *régime* has been retained, namely, that relating to offences against religion; so that it will depend mainly on the caprice and personal feelings of the State Procurator whether the punishment of imprisonment is to be inflicted for doubting the miracles performed by the prophets, or the infallibility of the Pope. Several Radical journals, especially the *Aréneir National*, assert that M. Emile Ollivier has expressed his determination to oppose with all the power at his command any serious alterations in the bill, and as he can rely on having a majority, the fate of the measure seems predestined to be passed. The Premier is also understood to be hostile to the principle of freely reporting trials for Press offences. I must, however, in fairness add, that the *Opinion Nationale*, a journal well known to have intimate relations with the Government, adjures the Hotspurs of the Press to wait and see. The *Peuple Français*, also a well-informed paper, asserts that Ministers will agree to the publicity of reports of Press trials, if required by the Legislative Assembly, but only on the following conditions:—1. That the President be empowered to prohibit the publication of trials, if they contain anything militating against a due regard for decency and morals. 2. In cases of defamation of character, when proof cannot be adduced; and 3. That the Press shall be debarred from publishing the accounts of the trial as delivered in by their own reporters, but be furnished with an official copy, as is hitherto done with the debates in the Legislative Assembly and the Senate. The weak point in the present situation of affairs is, that the "Cabinet of the 2nd. of January" cannot resign, nor even undergo any material modification, without creating other difficulties, that may be deemed insuperable. The reason of this is, that there is no well disciplined or concrete party in the Legislative Body, from which, in case of need, new Ministers might be elected to fill up vacancies in the Cabinet, and thus the fear of a Ministerial crisis governs the conduct of the members.

With a heavy heart, but because I conceive it to be my duty, though an unpleasant one, I must give some account of Rochefort and his doings, as he is still a member of the Press, and continues to act a conspicuous part in the events that have taken place since my last letter, which concluded with the intelligence of his being convicted and sentenced to *six* (not *three*, as stated by a *lapsus penna* on my part) months imprisonment. The usual period having elapsed, and as he refused to go to prison unless dragged there by main force, with the consent of the Legislative Assembly,

of which he is an unworthy member, he was arrested one evening when on the point of attending a meeting of his fellow Republicans, and conveyed to the prison of Sainte Pélagie, where he is now safely lodged and tolerably harmless. He is said to be quite well, and the solitude of prison life has given him time to cool down and recover from his late agitation, for he is by nature of a very excitable temperament. But his journal, the *Marseillaise*, has not fared so well—almost all its editors have been arrested, among whom are Arnould, Habeneck, Pascal Grousset, and Ulric de Fonvielle, the two latter of whom played an important part in the affair of Prince Pierre Bonaparte. The police agents were lying in ambush in the editorial rooms, and as the editors arrived they fell into the trap one after another, and were captured and carried off to the mairie of the arrondissement. This was also the case with two reporters of the *Gaulois*, who had come to fish for news, and they had great difficulty in proving their innocence. Ed. Bazire, another of the editors, was arrested in the street under the eyes of the Emperor, who was promenading the reserved terrace of the Tuileries garden overlooking the Seine, and, as *Figaro* states, Bazire was posted on the quay, and every time the Emperor passed, cried out "*Vive la république, vive Rochefort.*" Gustave Flourens is almost the only one that has not been taken, and he managed to make his escape in a disguise, and is in safety at Brussels, where is also his friend Terriel, of the *Réforme*, in which paper the former relates his adventures. He confesses to have attended the meeting of the 7th inst. in the Rue de Flandres, where he took arms, and declared Paris to be in a state of revolution; after which, when Rochefort was arrested, they proceeded to throw up barricades in the night, which ended in a wretched fiasco, and many arrests were made. Among the 51 prisoners taken to the Mazas are no less than thirteen contributors to, and others connected with, the *Marseillaise*, in consequence of which that paper did not appear for several days.

Two contributors of the *Réveil*, by name Cournet and Razuar, have been arrested at their lodgings and committed to prison, after undergoing an examination at the Prefecture of Police. It is stated that they are compromised in a conspiracy against the life of the Emperor, and that they and all the others will be indicted for high treason. The trials have commenced, and some of them already over, terminating, of course, in convictions. Delescluze, chief editor of the *Réveil*, is condemned, *in contumaciam*, to thirteen months' imprisonment, and a fine of 2,000 francs, and the *gérant* of that paper to six months, and also a fine of 2,000 frs. Gustave Flourens is sentenced to six months imprisonment, and 1,000 francs fine (also *in contumaciam*, as he is still in Belgium), and the director of the *Marseillaise*, by name, Dereure, two months imprisonment, and payment of a fine of 500 francs. Three of the editors have been set at liberty; but it is said that Rochefort is to be removed from the Sainte Pélagie prison, and confined in that of Mazas, where the treatment of prisoners is much more severe than the first named one. The next trials will be those of Grosnier, of the *Réforme*, now an inmate of the Mazas, and Labbé, connected with the *Opinion Publique*.

The *Eclipse*, an illustrated weekly of this city, has been seized for a picture, representing M. Ulric de Fonville, as the Goddess of Truth emerging from a well, with a mirror in one hand and a bucket full of blood in the other. This is considered such a grave offence, that the publisher has been tried for it, and sentenced to a month's imprisonment and payment of a fine of ten thousand francs.

On the 14th inst. the Court of Correctional Police gave judgment in the prosecution of M. Villemessant, editor of the *Figaro*, on a charge of libel preferred against him by the ex-Duke of Brunswick. The incriminating article was rather satirical, and spoke lightly of the Duke as a *ci-devant jeune homme*, who, at his time of life (he is sixty-six years of age), ought to employ his time better than setting the fashions, with other sarcastic remarks, that would have been dismissed as frivolous by an English jury. But the French court thought otherwise, and condemned the out-spoken editor to a fine of 500 francs, and the printer 50 francs, at the same time giving the ex-Duke the satisfaction of having the judgment of the court published in three different papers at the cost of the defendants.

The first number of a new journal, called *Le Centre Gauche*,

with M. Pierre Baragnon as chief editor, was published here on the 2nd inst. The leading article explains the line of policy the paper will pursue, commencing with the following words:—"France is desirous of liberty by the gradual means of perfecting her political institutions, but without violence or revolution. Throughout the whole extent of the national territory, there is no room for disorder, nor any fear for the reigning dynasty. The great wish of the country is to govern itself on well-defined constitutional principles, to educate and improve the working classes, and to increase its political influence and moral preponderance in the world."

I have just learned that Rochefort has written a letter from the prison of Sainte Pélagie to M. Barbaret, appointing him to be *gérant* of the *Marseillaise*, whilst the new chief-editor is a young enthusiastic Republican, of the name of Antonin Dubost, by profession a lawyer, and hitherto unknown in the field of journalistic literature.

AVANT-COURIER.

THE CONVICTION OF M. ROCHEFORT.—Neither M. Rochefort nor the irreconcilables generally are adversaries with whom it answers to fight in gloves. They will not be impressed by the Minister's forbearance; they are extremely likely to be impressed by his weakness. If it was advisable to prosecute M. Rochefort at all, it was advisable as a means of checking the distribution of incendiary matter. But six months of genteel seclusion are not likely to do much in this way. M. Rochefort will probably use his pen with equal freedom in and out of prison, and even if he is prevented from writing articles during his retirement, the *Marseillaise* will be on the spot to make the sufferings of its principal editor a theme of constant and appropriate comment.—*Saturday Review*.

A duel was fought by the waning light of five in the afternoon of Feb. 3rd, in the wood of Visinet, the favourite "meet" for such little pastimes of late. Of course the gentlemen engaged were journalists, MM. Chabrilat, of the *Figaro*, and Achille Dubuc, of the *Marseillaise*. Both had been down to Creuzot to report the incidents of the strike, and there the quarrel arose which led to the combat at our elbows. M. Dubuc accused M. Chabrilat in a public room of sending lying accounts to the journal he represented, and M. Chabrilat handed M. Dubuc his card, adding that he hoped to have the pleasure to meet him, not there, but at Paris, when they had both returned, after the discharge of their professional duties. The pleasure M. Chabrilat craved was accorded him yesterday, as I have written, when he had the satisfaction of wounding the colleague who had insulted him. M. Dubuc bled copiously, but it is expected, and it is not at all improbable, that this will rather serve than injure him.—*Standard Correspondence*.

The *Marseillaise*, after two days' interruption on Rochefort's imprisonment, made its reappearance. It is understood that the ruling spirit, during the enforced absence of Rochefort, is to be M. Gambetta.

The editors of the *Réveil* were, on the 17th ult., sentenced by default to 18 months imprisonment and 4000 francs fine, for an article justifying a man for shooting a policeman who entered his room in the dark.

WHO IS ROCHEFORT?—The *Figaro* has made a curious discovery. M. Rochefort, the Republican journalist, is said to be the same person as the Count Henri de Rochefort de Lucay, who, in 1861, wrote to Francis II., then besieged in Gasta, to place his sword at the service of Legitimacy. The fact is said to have been divulged by the Duke de San Cesario, who opened the letter in his quality of private secretary to the ex-king.

On the 19th of February M. Dereure, manager of the *Marseillaise*, was condemned to two months' imprisonment and 500f. fine for having published news alleged to be "false and calculated to provoke to a breach of peace" in the number of that journal for the 22nd of January, and M. Flourens to a sentence of six months imprisonment and 1000f. fine for supplying the offending news. Of course, the judgment in the latter instance was by default, the reply to the summons of M. Flourens to the bar being *non est inventus*. M. Dereure suffered a second penalty of 500f. and six months imprisonment for an article of M. Arthur de Fonvielle (brother to Ulric) in the *Marseillaise* of the 8th ult.,

and the writer of the article, in prison at the moment for his share in the comments on Rochefort's arrest, received the same sentence as Flourens received in the preceding case. The *Rappel* was fined for the publication of writings of a nature to seduce the army from its allegiance. MM. Charles Hugo and Barbiéux were condemned a fortnight ago on this charge to 1000*fr.* fine and four and three months imprisonment respectively, but appealed. Their appeal came on for hearing on the 19th, but was disallowed.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, February 23.

The Prussian Parliament was closed on the 12th inst. to make way for that of the North German Confederation, opened two days later by the King of Prussia. A few days before the close of the Session the House of Representatives had another and final debate on the motion of Duncker and Ebert for repealing the present enactments limiting the freedom of the Press, particulars of which I sent you in my last letter. Herr von Zastrow hoped the motion would be withdrawn, as he objected to it on formal and material grounds; the Upper House was quite safe to throw it out, and it would prevent the Government from bringing in their promised bill, as a clause in the Constitution prohibited a subject that had once been under discussion in Parliament from being brought forward again. Count Schwerin corrected this view of the case, which, he said, did not apply to Government bills. Duncker regretted to see that the Government representatives had a great deal to say when they had better be silent, and were tongue-tied when they ought to speak. Not a single Minister was then in the House. The movers could not be accused of wishing to embarrass the Government; on the contrary, they had repeatedly offered to withdraw their motion if Ministers would only promise to take the initiative; and it was mainly in consequence of the Ministerial reticence, that they were induced to proceed. After some further remarks on both sides respecting the separate clauses a division ensued, and the motion was carried by a great majority, the Conservatives voting in the minority.

In the meantime Count Eulenburg is taking steps to fulfil the promise he made for a new Press law; and would no doubt have brought in his bill before the close of the Session, if he had not stumbled upon some difficulties in the way, which must first be removed. Nothing certain is yet known of the contents of the bill, though from time to time well-informed organs profess to make revelations on the subject. From information I have received from Berlin, and on which I think I may rely, it is highly probable that the new bill will abandon the odious principle of requiring from political journals the deposit of "caution money" as useless and superfluous; but that the Government will insist on the obligation to send a copy of all newspapers, periodicals, and pamphlets to the local police, in order to enable the latter to keep a wholesome check on all that is printed. With regard to the repeal of the newspaper stamp duty, I fear there is but little chance of its remission for the present, as it forms part and parcel of the Budget voted for this year and 1871; though that Budget was made up when Baron von der Heydt was Minister of Finance, but accepted *en bloc* by Herr Camphausen when he came into office. Besides, as it brings in 700,000 dollars per annum, even the present Minister will probably not be in a hurry to dispense with so comfortable an item of revenue, raised with so little trouble and no risk. But its abolition must eventually take place, and it is only a question of time.

Well-founded complaints have been made of the line of conduct pursued by the *Leipziger Zeitung*, which stands in the anomalous position of being placed under the administration of a Saxon official without being a Government organ; and as it contains all official advertisements from the different local authorities, it is generally considered to be a semi-official organ; and as it sympathises and flatters Count Beust and Austria, whilst on the other hand it is decidedly hostile to Count Bismark and Prussia, it has on more than one occasion placed the Government of Saxony in a painful dilemma of mistrust and suspicion. The Saxon Parliament has therefore taken up the affair, and appointed a committee of the House of Representatives to examine

into the case and make a report, with suggestions for befitting alterations. The composition of this special committee could not have been made with more fairness and impartiality, as it contains a member of the Conservatives and one of the Centre; two of the National-liberals and two of the Progressionists, and finally a member of the "Independent Liberals;" so that all parties are fairly represented. The committee have just sent in their report and are unanimous in blaming the unpatriotic conduct of the *Leipziger Zeitung*, and suggest that the Government take the direction of it into their own hands, recognise it in its new form as an official organ, remove its seat to Dresden, and incorporate it with the *Dresden Journal*.

The *Hamburg Correspondent* announces that at the end of March they will lose the services of their sub-editor, Dr. Philip Hirsch, who will be replaced by Dr. Julius Eckardt, a gentleman of great literary attainments, and hitherto co-editor (with Herr Gustav Freitag, the author of *Soll und Haben*,—known in the English translation by the title of "Debit and Credit") of the *Grenzboten*, a literary journal of great merit published at Leipzig. I may here add that the reason for Dr. Hirsch's defection is that he has come into a large fortune left him by an uncle recently deceased at Vienna, in consequence of which he will remove to the Austrian metropolis to look after his inherited property.

The *Notizblatt für Soziales Leben* is advertised to appear next month at Dresden under the editorship of Dr. Louis Richter, who is induced to undertake that office in consequence of the success he has achieved by his "Sketches of Social Life," lately published at Leipzig. S.

RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 20.

The *Moscauer Wied*, or Moscow Gazette, has received a first "warning" for its desponding observations on the present state and future prospects of Russia, contained in its retrospects of 1869, published in one of its early numbers in the present year. The warning is specially and personally directed to the editor of the above-named paper, Titular Councillor of State Michael Katkoff, and Paul Leontchew, its publisher. It causes a painful impression to read the present altered language used in the editorial articles, so different from its former audacious sauciness and careless bearding of the authorities, without regard to the consequences; and it is surprising to see to what an extent M. Katkoff has been reduced to eat humble pie. He confesses meekly the error of his ways, expresses his sincere repentance for the past, and promises improvement for the future, with gratitude for the leniency displayed by the Government in letting him off so lightly, when he deserved a much severer punishment;—and all this in terms so abject, cringing, and obsequious, that it is quite disgusting to peruse. It is not very long since the Minister of the Interior, whose patience was exhausted by the almost daily occurring hostile diatribes of the *Moscauer Wied* against the German element in the Baltic provinces of Russia, could no longer refrain from giving him a severe reprimand, which called forth the ire of M. Katkoff, who put heaven and earth in motion to revenge himself for what he considered to be the injustice done to him, and through his influence at Court actually succeeded in obtaining redress so far that the Minister was obliged publicly to retract the reprimand he had previously given,—a very humiliating thing for a Minister of State to do in any country and under any circumstances. At that time Katkoff was in the zenith of Court favour, which enabled him successfully to beard a Minister; but now, when the consequences of his "nihilistic" principles have found expression and practical application in the revolutionary proclamations of Bakunin and Hetschajeff, he bends the knee before the Minister, does penance for his offences, and prays for absolution, crying loudly *Pater peccavi!* From all which it may be inferred that he has descended from his high pinnacle of Court favour, and is now in disgrace, as not unfrequently happens to court favourites in other countries besides Russia. The organs of the Conservative party,—such as the *Wicsty*, *Noraje*, *Niedola*, *Wrem*, and *Westnik Zoropy*—all fall foul of him, and attack him whom they formerly feared so much without the smallest compunction or commiseration at seeing him grovelling in the mire and deprived of all his former high protection and influence. Every day they dis-

charge their poisoned arrows at their deposed colleague now that he is under a cloud, and accuse Katkoff openly of being the real author of the revolutionary proclamations, warning society to beware of such agitators as the writers of the *Moscauer Wied*, whose criminal tendencies are much more dangerous and more to be feared than the plain and open revolutionary language of Bakunin and Hetschajeff.

COSSACK.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

The new *Svenska Vecko-Bladet*, founded last year at Stockholm with special regard to a country circulation, has met with such success and become so popular during its short career, that it already strikes off 15,000 copies; and it is asserted that there is not a single village or hamlet in the whole kingdom where one or more copies are not taken in.—On the other hand, we learn that the new daily journal *Daglige Nyheder*, that lately made its appearance at Christiania, has already been discontinued.

Miss Frederika Hollin, editress, publishes, sets up, and works off a weekly newspaper in Nortalaja.

DENMARK.

The Danish Government proposes to establish an official Gazette of its own, and has laid before Parliament a bill to enable them to do so. There is but little doubt that the Second Chamber will readily give its consent and vote the sum required for the type, presses, and other plant, as from the number of official advertisements its columns must necessarily command it will in a very short time become not only self-supporting, but in all probability have a comfortable surplus in aid of the public revenue. The official advertisements have hitherto been inserted in the *Berlingske Tidende*, a private enterprise founded by the Chamberlain, Baron Von Berling, intimate and favourite of the late King when Crown Prince of Denmark.

A new provincial journal of some pretensions has just appeared at Logster under the name of the *Logster Avis*.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, Feb. 20.

On the 5th inst. a strike among the printers broke out at Pesth, in consequence of which the newspapers of that city appear now in very reduced dimensions. It is the old story, they want higher wages and less work, which is resisted by the newspaper proprietors, who are of opinion that there is no cause for complaint, and have formed a league for affording each other mutual assistance with the few hands that remain content, and have declined to join in the strike. It is asserted—with what degree of truth I am unable to say—that the discontented compositors have received considerable pecuniary support from their brethren in foreign countries, among others, 1,000 francs from Brussels, and that they are in sufficient funds to hold out for a month, paying the married men five florins per week, and the unmarried journeymen four florins. It is added that they require an increase of wages, and be paid in future 23 kreuzers per 1,000 letters, instead of 19 kreuzers, as at present, and demand further that a day's work shall be reduced from nine hours to eight. One of the papers—the *Fremdenblatt*, has hit on a novel expedient to meet the inconvenience to the public from the strike. It invites its subscribers, by placards posted on the walls in different parts of the city, to attend every day at noon, at a certain named saloon, when the telegrams, letters from correspondents, leading articles, and other matter intended for publication if there had not been a strike, are read out aloud for general information. I have not heard whether the attendance is numerous or otherwise.

This fever for striking appears to be infectious, and I much regret to state, has extended to this city, all the compositors engaged on the public Press at Vienna having given formal notice to their employers that they leave work to-morrow, unless, in the meantime, their demands are complied with—which, down to the present moment, is not the case. As may readily be imagined, the proprietors are resolved to resist what they consider the unjust demands and overbearing insolence of their workmen, and have held a meeting to consider what steps should be taken under the circumstances. In the first

place it was resolved to form a coalition, binding each member for a period of six months not to accede to the strike under a penalty of 2,000 florins. On the proposition of Dr. Friedländer, it was agreed to club together all the intelligence received by each journal as long as the strike lasts, such intelligence to be sifted and edited by a committee of political journalists, and set up in type and form by the female compositors, apprentices, and such of the men as refuse to join their comrades; it is then to be stereotyped and an exemplar struck off for each journal, which will then add its own title and heading and print as many copies as it requires; so that in fact during the strike the whole of the Vienna Press will be identically the same. If any of the newspaper establishments have the needful force at their command, they are at liberty to publish a supplement with advertisements. The meeting was attended very numerously, and all the political papers were represented except the official *Wiener Zeitung*, the *Fremdenblatt*, the *Vaterland*, the *Volkszeitung*, the *Volksfreund*, and the *Gemeinde Zeitung*; the other fourteen having joined the coalition to resist to the utmost the demands of the strikers and dare them to do their worst. It was considered certain that the *Fremdenblatt* would join the league, as also the *Vaterland*, and the *Volkszeitung*, whilst it matters little whether the *Volksfreund* and *Gemeinde Zeitung* give in their adhesion or not, as the former is published late in the afternoon, and the latter has no subscribers at Vienna and is intended solely for country circulation. The Aulic Councillor, Dr. Beck, the director of the State Printing Office, had received instructions to observe a strict neutrality in the quarrel, and that is the reason why the *Wiener Zeitung*, being a Government organ, was not represented at the meeting. It is said that the number of strikers is more than 1,800, and only 46 have refused to join. A journal of this city states that the strikers at Pesth have written to their colleagues here to implore them to retract their notice of leaving off work till they themselves shall have come to an arrangement with their employers, when they will be able to send them liberal pecuniary assistance. If this be true it either comes too late or has not been considered advisable to act up to the request; for it is certain that the affair remains in *statu quo*. At the last meeting of the coalition of newspaper proprietors, held the day before yesterday (18th inst.) the draft of a letter was read and approved of, and sent off the same day to the committee of strikers, acknowledging the receipt of their letter with their formulated demands, and regretting that they were of such a nature as to be inadmissible, and that nothing remained for them but to return to their work or to take the consequences, hinting at the probability of their obtaining printers and compositors in sufficient numbers from other parts. They add that perhaps they might be induced to raise the wages from 19 to 21 kreuzers, but they would never consent to reducing the full day's work to less than its standard hitherto of ten hours.

TEUTON.

ITALY.

In the Italian Budget about to be submitted to Parliament, the item for "Secret Service Money" for subsidies to the Press has disappeared from the estimates. This is the first measure of economy that has given general satisfaction, and created no opposition.

The *Perscreranza* has now openly joined the ranks of the Opposition, though with more caution and less violence than many of the other journals, out of regard for the Ministers Correnti, Gadda, and Visconti Venosta, with whom the editors are on excellent terms. The *Nazione*, edited by Cavinini, Levi, and Brenner, is the paper most vehemently opposed to the present Ministry.

The *Rivist Europea* is the title of a new literary periodical that has appeared at Florence, under the editorship of Professor Angelo de Gubernatis. It takes especial notice of everything concerning Italy, contained in the foreign literary periodicals.

ROME.

A contributor to the *Augsburg Gazette*, Dr. Albert Dressel, a native of Magdeburg, but for thirty years past a resident in Rome, was on the 4th inst. on the point of being expelled by the Roman

police as the suspected writer of the letters from Rome published in that journal. The decree was countermanded through the intervention of the North-German ambassador, who ascertained from good sources that Dressel was not the author of the incriminated correspondence.

POLAND.

There are now six daily papers published at Lemberg, and three at Cracow.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.

Whatever may be the opinion in Europe about the fatal encounter between Prince Pierre Bonaparte and the miserable scribblers of the *Marseillaise*, few of your readers, I apprehend, will be prepared to go quite so far as the *New York Citizen* :—

"While we by no means advocate the indiscriminate slaughter of the editors of indecent journals, still there is much that is commendable in the recent suppression of Rochefort's bravo. Rochefort himself is a person who has brought disgrace upon the profession of journalism and upon the French Liberal party. He has won his notoriety simply by the reckless shamelessness of the libels which he has printed against the Bonaparte family and the adherents of the French Empire. His *Lanterne* was not even witty, except at rare intervals, but was simply brutal and indecent. The man himself has never shown any ability except as a professional blackguard. His staple themes were the illegitimacy of the Emperor and the unchastity of the Empress. These he dwelt upon for nearly a year, with a sameness of scurrility and an iteration of indecency which were sufficient to disgust any right-minded man with the cause of which this licentious libeller was an honoured apostle.

"Permitted to return to France by the magnanimity of the man whom he had so persistently abused, Rochefort showed his gratitude by establishing a new organ of scurrility called the *Marseillaise*. In reply to some outrageous attacks upon the imperial family, Prince Pierre Bonaparte sent him word that he was ready to accept a challenge from him. Rochefort replied by sending him two armed bullies, one of whom opened negotiations by striking the Prince in the face, and followed up this gentlemanly proceeding by drawing his revolver. The Prince promptly and properly shot him dead, and drove the other assassin from the room. Had it been Rochefort himself who had met with this deserved punishment, Prince Pierre would have earned the gratitude of all reputable journalists and true friends of liberty; as it is, he has rendered a service to the cause of decency and manliness which deserves the gratitude of honourable men. Rochefort and his crew have voluntarily assumed the position of brigands who live by the perpetration of crimes against decency and good order. They deserve no leniency at any time, and when they add attempted assassination to their trade as professional libellers, they deserve no better fate than that which overtook Victor Noir at the hands of the impetuous Prince Pierre."

For my own part, I should have rejoiced to hear that any of the crew had got a good cow-hiding, but I stop short of shooting. A very different case has recently occurred here. A crack-brained parson named Cooke, fancying himself aggrieved by an accusation of seduction brought against him by the *World*, lay wait for the writer, with the now inevitable pistol. Fortunately he had been induced to put aside his weapon, when he encountered Mr. Croly, one of the editors of the paper, whom he laid hands on and shook violently. Mr. Croly, however, threw him off, and gave him into custody, but forbore from prosecuting the matter at the police court.

The trial of McFarlane for the murder of Richardson, of the *Tribune*, will take place next month.

The annual meeting of the *Tribune* proprietors was held on Tuesday, 50,000 dols. being divided. The estates of the two deceased proprietors were credited—that of the late S. T. Clarke with 22,860 dols., and that of the late A. D. Richardson, with 8,150 dols. Horace Greeley's salary, as editor, has been raised to 10,000 dols. per annum.

The *New Era*, an advocate of the coloured population, to be published weekly at Washington, and edited by the Rev. J. Silla Martin and Frederick Douglass, is announced.

George D. Prentice, so many years before the public as the somewhat eccentric editor of the *Louisville Journal*, constantly being quoted in a disparaging manner by his contemporaries, but generally resenting the affront with a home thrust or knock-

down blow, died on the 22nd of January, at the age of sixty-seven.

Mr. Meverick's "Life of Henry J. Raymond," of the *New York Times*, is just out. I will forward you a copy to "manipulate" at your pleasure, but meanwhile the following facts which it mentions may be of interest :—

There are one hundred and fifty papers now published in this city, twenty-four of which are issued daily, namely, thirteen in the morning and eleven in the evening. Three of the daily papers are printed in German and two in French. Of the 126 weeklies, 18 are printed in German, one in Italian, and two in Spanish.

Mr. Meverick gives in a tabular form the gross receipts of the principal New York journals, for the nine months ending June 30th, 1869, as under :—

"The *Herald's* receipts were 593,071 dols.; the *World's*, 542,933 dols.; the *Tribune's*, 425,267 dols.; and the *Times'*, 344,861 dols. Among the weeklies, the receipts of the *Ledger* were 496,638 dols.; of the *New York Weekly* and *Phunny Phellow*, 372,107 dols.; and of *Harper's Weekly* and *Bazar*, 332,285 dols."

Although the modesty of the editor may induce him to pass by the frequent "honourable mention" of THE NEWSPAPER PRESS by the American papers, the vanity of his New York correspondent (who is directly interested in the present case) will not be appeased unless we publish the following paragraph from the Philadelphia *Proof Sheet* :—

"THE NEWSPAPER PRESS of London, one of the most valued of our foreign Exchanges, has entered upon the fourth volume. It is ably conducted, and its pages are enriched by contributions from many writers, who are evidently masters of their subjects, and by correspondence from the various European capitals. Each number also contains an excellent summary of American typographical news. We heartily wish that the success that has thus far attended THE NEWSPAPER PRESS may be increased in its present and future volumes." Really, after this "SOL" must lay down his pen for the present, and stroke his beard.

SOL.

The Brooklyn *Union* has passed into the hands of Mr. H. C. Bowen, proprietor of the *New York Independent*. Its principal editor is to be ex-Lieutenant Governor Woodford. John F. Mines, formerly of the *Troy Times*, will also be on the staff. In politics it will continue Republican.

Mr. Bigelow, late of the *New York Times*, is now living in retirement in Orange county, New York.—Gen. S. L. Woodford, the late Lieut.-Governor of the State of New York, on February 1 becomes editor of the *Brooklyn Union*.

The *National Intelligencer* has again died, Mr. Alexander Delmar notwithstanding, and the prestige of his statistics. That *National Intelligencer* was a voracious monster while it lived, eating up the substance of every one connected with it. Its last essay at living, short as it was, cost several thousands of dollars, and Mr. Delmar lost his health as well as his money in trying to keep the rickety thing on its legs. Any one who wants to achieve a success likely to make him famous ought to take hold of the *National Intelligencer*, and coach it into a vigorous existence. Senator Sprague had his eye on it, but, rich and enterprising as he is, he prudently concluded that the exploit was beyond his powers.—*Anglo-American Times*.

There is a paper at Wisconsin called *The Leon Wolf* [we find no such paper in "Rowell's Directory." Ed. N. P.]

It is said that fifty thousand dollars are to be invested in the *American Punchinello*.

Some San Francisco newaboy's sell other articles than newspapers, and astonish Eastern visitors by crying, "Here's yer *Evening Tribune* and cough candy; cures coughs, colds, and sore throat—latest 'count of the earthquake—only five cents a copy, or six sticks for a quarter."

The *Mobile Tribune* publishes its legislative proceedings under the heading, "Alabama Mongrel Legislature." The House of Representatives is styled "The Lower Kennel."

The editor of the *Western (Missouri) Landmark* asks his readers to excuse the looks of his paper, as he is in bed from the effects of a fight with a delinquent subscriber.—A San Francisco paper alludes to a rival editor as "the degraded journalistic

drudge who furnishes literary swill for an obscene melodeon sheet in this city."—A contemporary says of a rival editor that he errs in eating meat and vegetables—thistles being his proper food.—An editor of an Ohio weekly, after a brief absence, says: "Well, reader, we are again upon our own dung-hill."—A New York editor wants a brother of the quill to be "scalped and supplied with respectable brains."—*Anglo-American Times*.

At Roseman city, Montana, there is a paper called the *Pick and Plough*.

"INTERVIEWING" RHETORIC.—An American private reporter assures us that Mr. Beecher never swears; but, if he did, "he would throw into it an amount of pathos, and splendid imagery, and moving earnestness, and resistless energy, topped off and climaxed with a gorgeous pyrotechnic conflagration of filagree and fancy swearing that would astonish and delight the hearer, and for ever after quiver through his bewildered memory an exquisite confusion of rainbows, and music and thunder and lightning. A man of high order of intellect could sit and listen to Mr. Beecher swearing for a week without getting tired."

GERMAN NEWSPAPERS IN AMERICA.—There are at present 300 German newspapers or periodicals of various kinds in the United States, exclusive of journals which, though appearing in English, publish an edition at the same time in the German language.

An unknown correspondent, mildly anxious as to the orthodoxy of this paper, thinks we might conduct it in such a manner as not to offend the most fastidious. Dear friend, we do not care how much we offend the most fastidious. If we sin against them there are two courses open to them: they can either stop reading the *News-Letter* or cease to be fastidious. Either will be perfectly agreeable to us. By the way, it is astonishing how tenderly solicitous are all our friends that this sheet should be conducted in accordance with their own ideas and at variance with those of its editor. Correspondents will please take notice that we pay nothing per folio for advice, and only insert it in the form of advertisements calculated to deceive a confiding public.—*San Francisco News-Letter*.

A VOICE FROM THE NEWSBOYS is the autobiography of a genuine newsboy, simply and naturally told. It is entirely free from the cant and absurdity which characterises most of the fictitious stories of impossible newsboys, and is really an interesting little book.—*New York Citizen*.

CUBA.

The publisher of the *Voz de Cuba*, a journal printed at Havana, has been assassinated at Cayo Hueso by five of the Cuban insurgents, in consequence of his having espoused too warmly the cause of negro emancipation.

UTAH.

I see by latest news from Salt Lake City that the schismatic editors of the *Utah Magazine*—to whom I have referred in a previous letter—and who were with others expelled from the Mormon Church, are about to issue a large weekly newspaper in place of their periodical. The *Mormon Tribune*, as it is to be entitled, is to be the organ of the new schism, and if successful cannot fail to become a thorn in Brigham Young's side.—*Standard*.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

THE Halifax (N.S.) *Citizen* has lately been enlarged and made a daily. It is one of the best papers published in the British Provinces.

The correspondents of two Canadian papers, Messrs. Cunningham of the *Toronto Globe*, and Robertson of the *Telegraph*, were thrown into prison in the Red River Settlements by the insurgents; but they escaped (it is said by bribing their guards) and arrived safely at St. Paul, on the 28th of January.

AUSTRALIA.

Three months ago we gave, under the title of "An Old Australian journalist," a sketch of the life and struggles of Mr.

Fawcner the founder of the Port Philip press. The editor of the *Hobart Town Mercury* adds the following particulars:—

"Mr. Fawcner was the father and founder of the Victorian press. He issued the first newspaper ever brought out in Port Philip. It was a small manuscript sheet, written by his own hand. It made its appearance on the 1st January, 1838—thirty-one years ago. It contained such commercial advertisements as the necessities of an infant settlement required, and these were interlarded with paragraphs of local gossip or contentions. It was not until two months after this date that the first printing machinery arrived at Port Philip, when Mr. Fawcner continued the publication under more customary conditions; and we may mention incidentally that at this stage the present proprietor of *The Mercury* became associated with him in the conduct of the *Port Philip Patriot*."

We have received from Messrs. Gordon and Gotch, the well known newspaper agents of London, Melbourne and Sydney, a copy of their excellent and comprehensive "Australian Handbook and Almanack" for 1870. We extract from among a mass of general and useful information, occupying 140 pages, the following latest and most authentic particulars of the Australian Press:—

NEW SOUTH WALES.—There are two morning daily papers in Sydney—the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Empire*; and one evening journal, *The Evening News*. The weekly papers comprise the *Sydney Mail*, *Journal of Commerce*, *Weekly Empire*, *Sydney Punch*, *Bell's Life in Sydney*, *Freeman's Journal*, &c. There is also *The Illustrated Sydney News*, published monthly. The leading provincial papers are, *The Maitland Mercury*, *Goulburn Herald*, *Yass Courier*, *Bathurst Free Press*, *Grafton Examiner*. There are several other well-conducted journals issued at weekly intervals.

VICTORIA.—The Press is extremely well represented in Victoria, and the Melbourne papers in all respects will compare favourably with the London newspapers, and, as regards enterprise, are in some things superior to them. The daily papers in Melbourne are—the *Argus*, the *Age*, the *Herald*, and the *Daily Telegraph*. The weekly papers are—the *Australasian*, *Leader*, *Economist*, *Journal of Commerce*, *Punch*, *Touchstone*, and, in addition to these, there are several class and religious papers and periodicals and a pictorial paper—the *Illustrated Australian News*. In the country towns, the fourth estate is also well represented, Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Geelong, &c., having one or more daily papers, and the leading towns boasting of either a weekly or bi-weekly, and in many instances both.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The daily papers are the *South Australian Register*, the *Advertiser*, the *Express and Telegraph*, and the *Evening Journal*. The weekly papers are the *Adelaide Observer* and the *Weekly Chronicle*. There is also an illustrated paper published monthly—the *Illustrated Adelaide Post*. There are a few country papers, but the Press is poorly represented in the provinces when compared with the other colonies.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—The newspapers comprise the *Fremantle Herald*, *Perth Inquirer*, *Perth Gazette*.

TASMANIA, Hobart Town.—Daily: *Evening Mail*, *Mercury*, *Tasmanian Times*. Twice a week: *Leader*. Weekly: *Government Gazette*, *Weekly News*. Fortnightly: *Mopewah*. Monthly: *Church News*, *Tasmanian Catholic Standard*, *Walch's Literary Intelligence*. Launceston.—Three times a week: *Examiner*, *Times*. Twice a week: *Cornwall Chronicle*.

QUEENSLAND.—The leading newspaper in Brisbane is the *Courier*. It is a well-conducted journal, as is also the *Queenslander*, issued from the same office. The *Queensland Express* is a bi-weekly paper not very long started. In Ipswich the *Queensland Times* has a large circulation, it is issued tri-weekly. Rockhampton is supplied with the *Bulletin* and the *Argus*, both tri-weekly papers. Nearly all the other towns have a weekly or bi-weekly paper, Toowoomba and Townsville boasting two journals.

NEW ZEALAND.—The leading New Zealand newspapers are the *Daily Southern Cross* and *New Zealand Herald*, published at Auckland; the *Lyttleton Times*, published at Lyttleton; *Otago Daily Times*, published at Dunedin; the *West Coast Times*, published at Hokitika, all daily papers; and the *South-*

land News, Southland Times, Grey River Argus, Nelson Colonist, Taranaki Herald, Wanganui Chronicle, and Wellington Independent, published less frequently.

INDIA.

Calcutta is to have a third daily paper. It has been decided in the chief court of the Punjab that an editor is bound to disclose the name of the writer of a libellous article.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

A memorable Press trial, occupying three days, took place at Potchefstroom, Transvaal, in December last. Mr. Williams, the editor and one of the proprietors of the *Transvaal Advocate*, was found guilty of defamation under extenuating circumstances, in having published two leading articles in the English language in Nos. 14 and 15 of the *Transvaal Advocate*, wherein the President, the Government, and the Volksraad were injured and damaged in their name and character. The Rev. J. Ludorf, who is neither editor nor proprietor of the paper, but notwithstanding had been similarly indicted with Mr. Williams, was also found guilty of the same offence, and both were sentenced to pay a fine of £25 each with costs, and in default to three months imprisonment.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. GEORGE D. PRENTICE.

GEORGE D. PRENTICE died at Louisville, or Kentucky, on the 22nd January, aged 67. He took charge of the *Connecticut Mirror* in 1825, and had been 45 years on the Press, and for more than a third of a century the editor and proprietor of the *Louisville Journal*—an able, brilliant, widely-circulated paper, wholly reckless of decency, yet uniformly honest of purpose, and now and then graced by an essay worthy of Hazlitt. Mr. Prentice was a Whig of the Whigs, the ardent personal friend and political supporter of Henry Clay, and for years waged an internecine war of epigrams upon the Democratic party. The *Journal* every morning published a column of little two-lined or three-lined personal squibs, which were witty and amusing beyond anything else of the kind in the Press of the United States. The bitterness of Mr. Prentice's quarrels, frequently ending in pistol practice, and the frequent coarseness of his language, repelled many even of his immediate subscribers, and it was difficult to believe that so violent and vindictive a paragraphist in politics was the author of the tender, delicate, and pietistic poems which were published with his name. His verses had much of the grace, and feeling, and finish of Præd, wanting his sportive humour, and three or four of his pieces—"The Sabbath," "The Closing Year," and "My Mother's Grave"—are among the finest offerings of the American muse. In the war of the rebellion Mr. Prentice espoused with his usual warmth the cause of the North, though he had a son who served in the Confederate army. It was upon the occasion of his going through the lines to see this son, then lying ill at Richmond, that he became estranged from Mr. Lincoln, who is said to have added to his pass a word or two expressing the hope that he would not return to the United States. Subsequently Mr. Prentice employed all his powers in opposing the Radical policy of reconstruction, and the *Journal* for two or three years before his death had come to be regarded as almost disloyal. One of his latest witticisms was at the expense of General Benjamin F. Butler, who, he said, "would have been a candidate for the Spanish throne if the Crown jewels had not already been stolen." More than two years ago Mr. Prentice parted with his proprietary interest in the *Journal*, and his contributions to its columns have since been inconsiderable, so that his loss to journalism will be little felt.

MR. GEORGE HOGARTH.

Mr. George Hogarth, for many years well known in connection with the London Press, and as the author of several popular works on music ("Memoirs of the Opera," "Musical

Biography and Criticism," &c.), died on the morning of the 12th ult., having passed his 86th year. Mr. Hogarth was a native of Scotland, and was born in the year 1783. In his early life Mr. Hogarth was a writer to the *Signet* at Edinburgh, where he was much associated with the literary celebrities of the day, including Sir Walter Scott, Lockhart, &c., mention being made of him in Professor Wilson's "Noces Ambrosianæ." As a musical critic Mr. Hogarth speedily acquired repute, and in that capacity was numbered among the brilliant writers whose contributions made the name and fame of the *Edinburgh Courant*. About 45 years ago he came to London, and was engaged on the *Morning Chronicle* as a writer both on political and musical subjects. A large share in the management of the paper ultimately devolved upon Mr. Hogarth; and it was in the course of his editorial duties that he gave encouragement to the first efforts of Mr. Charles Dickens, by inserting the "Sketches" of London Life in the columns of the *Chronicle*, and was afterwards appointed musical critic to the *Daily News* on the establishment of that paper in 1846, under the then editorship of his son-in-law, Mr. Charles Dickens. This office Mr. Hogarth assiduously fulfilled until his failing health led, in 1866, to his resignation and retirement from the active work of a daily paper. He also held for many years a similar appointment on the *Illustrated London News*, besides having contributed to magazines and periodicals, and edited various works, both musical and literary. For a few seasons Mr. Hogarth was secretary to the Philharmonic Society. Such a career as that which Mr. Hogarth so zealously followed is one of uncompromising application and hard work, involving late hours and incessant activity of the brain. The labours inseparable from his vocation, which to within a few days of his decease he undauntedly continued, did not prevent him from producing books remarkable for the amount of information they contain. Although familiar to a wide circle of friends as an amiable and conscientious critic, George Hogarth is chiefly known to the public by his works on musical literature. His "Musical History, Biography, and Criticism," was published in 1836, and a second edition, considerably enlarged, appeared in 1838. It is a standard work of reference, to be consulted by those in search of knowledge of the subject of which it treats. The "Memoirs of the Musical Drama" appeared in 1839, and a second edition, under the title of "Memoirs of the Opera," in which events in the operatic world are related down to the period of publication, in 1851. These books have been received and are generally acknowledged as the best modern authority on their subject-matter.

Even to the advanced age of eighty-seven, Mr. George Hogarth retained full possession of those remarkable faculties which distinguished him through life; and an unfortunate accident was the immediate cause of his death. Two weeks ago he was writing a criticism for the *Illustrated London News*, and left the room in which he had been occupied, when, ascending a flight of stairs, he fell backwards, and, falling heavily, broke an arm and a leg. The former was set, but the latter defied every effort of surgical skill; and after lingering some time, the sufferer, evincing extraordinary vitality to the last, died from the injuries he had received.

An upright, honest, honourable gentleman; a just, outspoken, generous critic, one whose pen was always ready in the cause of intrinsic merit; a kind, unchanging friend, George Hogarth, a very patriarch of literature, will never be forgotten by those who had the happiness of knowing him, and who now mourn the loss of his cheerful presence among them.

Mr. Hogarth expired in London, at the house of his daughter, Mrs. Roney, who with Mrs. Charles Dickens and Edward Hogarth, tended her father during his old age and in his last moments with loving care.

Mr. Hogarth married a daughter of the late Mr. George Thomson, of Edinburgh, whose name is associated with that of Beethoven, by the commission which he gave to the composer for arrangements of Scotch and other national airs with accompaniments. The kindly nature and genial temperament of the late Mr. Hogarth rendered him universally liked and esteemed.

If we mistake not, the deceased was closely related to Mr. Hogarth, one of the descriptive writers occasionally employed by *Bell's Life*.

MR. JAMES PAGAN.

Mr. James Pagan, editor and part proprietor of the *Glasgow Herald*, died on the 11th ult., from heart disease. Mr. Pagan had been connected with the Press for many years, and in 1856 became the editor of the *Glasgow Herald*. The deceased gentleman was the author of a "History of Glasgow," and was closely identified with the commercial and political interests of that thriving city.

MR. CHARLES O. FAXON.

Mr. Charles O. Faxon, formerly political editor of the *Louisville Courier*, died in Clarksville, Tennessee, on the 27th January. He was connected with several Southern papers during the war; and was editor of the *Chattanooga Rebel* when that city was captured by the Union forces. He is said to have wielded a very caustic pen, and according to the *Louisville Courier Journal*, he ranked next to Prentice as a keen paragraphist. He was a son of the founder of the *Buffalo Express*, and a brother of Henry W. Faxon, who was the author of the famous "Silver Lake Snake Story," and whose friends claim for him the authorship of "Beautiful Snow."

MR. WILLIAM HOLL.

With sincere regret we announce the death of the senior proprietor of the *Worcester Herald*, Mr. William Holl. The deceased gentleman had been ill but a short time, and on the evening (of the 16th ult.) hopes were entertained of his recovery, but on the next morning he died. He had been connected with the *Herald* for 60 years, and though naturally so modest and retiring as to avoid most matters of a public character, he was well known as deeply sympathising with all charitable movements, and his aid was always cheerfully given. The establishment of the orphan asylum was to a large extent owing to his exertions, and its interests were always very dear to him. By his kindness and amiability, Mr. Holl has endeared himself to all who were intimately associated with him, and his memory will be regarded by all who knew him with lasting and unfeigned respect.

MR. J. D. HUBBARDE.

On January the 27th, died Mr. J. D. Hubbarde, for twenty years connected with, and many years editor of, the *Hampshire Advertiser*. Of late it was with deep regret that his increasing sickness was observed by those associated with him, it being but too evident that his dissolution was gradually approaching, and shortly after noon on the 27th ult. he quietly passed away. Mr. Hubbarde joined the staff of the *Hampshire Advertiser* on leaving the *Wakefield Journal*, of which he had been the proprietor; and it can be truly said that, in addition to the ability which he invariably displayed in all matters with which he was connected, whether as regards the Press or in reference to those useful institutions, such as the Ornithological Association (of which he was the president) and others that engaged his attention, his amiable manners and kind-hearted disposition made him beloved and esteemed by all with whom he came in contact. In his writing for the Press he was always vigorous; his observations were well reasoned and illustrated, but never offensive or unkind, and he had the advantage of being much respected by his political opponents, as well as by those who held the same views.

Mr. Hubbarde, as our obituary states, was in the 67th year of his age. Having at an early period of life chosen journalism as his profession, he had made himself a thorough master of every detail connected with it, and probably no one was more generally acquainted than himself with the varied duties and responsibilities attaching to any one who has the direction of an important organ of public opinion. He was attended during his illness by Dr. Wiblin, with whom he had been for many years on terms of friendly intimacy, and there can be no doubt that the greatest skill was brought to bear in dealing with his malady, but during the past few days he sank rapidly.

Mr. Hubbarde leaves a widow and several sons and daughters to mourn his loss.

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—FEBRUARY 9.

(Sittings at Nisi Prius, before the LORD CHIEF BARON and a Special Jury.)

LEE V. BOSWORTH.

THIS was an action on an alleged promise, in consideration of the plaintiff defending an action for libel, to indemnify him against any damages and costs to which he might become liable in respect of it. The defendant denied the promise, and also pleaded that as he had no interest in the action, the promise was contrary to the law against the maintenance of suits.

Mr. Serjeant O'Malley and Mr. J. O. Griffiths were counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Huddleston, Q.C., and Mr. P. Thompson counsel for the defendant.

This case arose out of the action for libel between Mr. Cox, the proprietor of the *Leicester Advertiser*, and Mr. Lee, proprietor of the *Leicester Mail*, tried in March last and reported in the April No. of the NEWSPAPER PRESS.

The plaintiff said that Mr. Bosworth agreed to hold him harmless as regards that action, and it appeared that Messrs. Stretton, of Leicester, his solicitors, conducted the defence, and afterwards had a motion made for a new trial, which was eventually refused. The costs amounted to 117l., and Mr. Bosworth offered to pay that sum, as well as the damages, if Mr. Lee would guarantee the return of the money in the event of his not receiving it from Mr. Frewen; but this he declined to do. The consequence was that an execution was placed in the plaintiff's house at Loughborough, and his furniture was advertised to be sold by auction; but before that event came off Mr. Bosworth handed a cheque for 149l. to the sheriff, and he accordingly gave up possession. The only damages now claimed were for the loss of character and reputation in his business which the plaintiff had sustained by reason of the execution.

The Lord Chief Baron refused to nonsuit, but gave leave to move to the defendant.

The defence was that the plaintiff ought to have sued Mr. Frewen, and that it was only in the event of that gentleman not paying that the defendant was to be liable.

The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages 800l.

VICE CHANCELLORS' COURTS.—FEB. 17 AND 18.

(Before Sir JOHN STUART.)

MILL V. WHALLEY, M.P., AND THE PETERBOROUGH TIMES NEWSPAPER COMPANY.

THIS suit is instituted by the plaintiff to compel specific performance of an agreement by Mr. Whalley to sell to the plaintiff a newspaper called the *Peterborough Times*. The plaintiff has since become bankrupt, and an order was now made that his creditors' assignee should prosecute the suit within three weeks, or in default that the bill should be dismissed.

TICHBORNE V. TICHBORNE.

THIS was a motion to commit the printer and publisher of the *Echo* for a contempt of court, in publishing an article in that newspaper on the 1st February inst., entitled "On Double Lives." On the 4th inst. there was inserted in the *Echo* a paragraph disclaiming all intention to prejudice the claims of the plaintiff, on whose behalf the motion was now made, but notwithstanding that disclaimer notice was on the 6th inst. given for this motion. The authoress of the article deposed that she had not read the affidavits or pleadings in the cause, and that she had no interest whatever in the result of it; and it was contended that the article was written to show persons how much better it was, and how much happier they would be to live at home, instead of living, as it were, a double life. It was also contended that the reference to the plaintiff was simply for the purpose of adorning a tale, and not for the purpose of interfering in any way with the course of justice.

The Vice Chancellor.—The respondent has endeavoured to say that the publication in this case is not a contempt of court. But whatever tends to prejudice a case—whatever matter is published to the world referring to the parties to the litigation and to the subject matter of the litigation in such a way as excites a prejudice—is a contempt of this court. Lord Hardwicke's judgment upon this point is in these terms:—"Nothing is more incumbent upon courts of justice than to preserve their proceedings from being misrepresented, nor is there anything of more pernicious consequences than to prejudice the mind of the public against the persons concerned, or parties in a cause, before the cause is finally heard." To my mind the publication in this case tends to prejudice the minds of the readers of it against the case of the plaintiff in the cause. The essay, which is said to be an essay with a moral, has been written with very great ability, and the title of it is "On Double Lives." The substance of the essay refers to various cases of gross and known imposture in times past, and mixed up with a reference to those cases of imposture is a mention of the name of the plaintiff in this case, and, therefore, to my mind there is a disparagement of his case, and that which tends to excite a prejudice against him. But I do not think the case is an aggravated contempt of court. I do not think that there is any evidence of an intention to prejudice the public against the plaintiff or to disparage his character. It is obvious from what has been stated in the publication, and from what is known to the world generally of the nature of this case, that it is one which would greatly tempt any person who has applied his mind to the subject of the essay, to think of this case. It being in my mind a contempt of court, but not an aggravated contempt, the publisher, whom I am now asked to commit to prison for contempt previous to the hearing of this application, and, indeed, four days before any service of this notice of motion, published in a succeeding number of the same newspaper an apology in very ample terms. The evidence is that the plaintiff did not know of this until afterwards, but that is a circumstance of very small moment—the fact remains, that the public to whom the first article was addressed, and in which comments of this case were made, were

informed, by a notice in the paper, that the publication was thought to be offensive to the plaintiff, and that the author and publisher regretted the publication, disclaiming that there was any intention whatever to disparage or prejudice the plaintiff's case. That is the substance of the evidence, and it is needless to read the terms of the apology. The impression upon my mind is that it was a satisfactory apology, and perhaps if that apology had reached the plaintiff he might have refrained from serving this notice of motion. Upon the whole of the case, considering that there has been that apology, and that that apology has been repeated in this court in very satisfactory terms, it seems to me that there is no pretence for asking the court to inflict the penalty of imprisonment in this case. The only remaining question is as to the costs of this application. During the argument it was shown that the course of litigation at present is not in this court—the course of litigation is in fact in a court of law, and the prejudice which this publication is calculated to create in some degree—though not in a great degree—may be created by it; but the prejudice, whatever it may be, is one which entirely affects the proceedings in the court of law. There is certainly enough to justify the application to this court, because the bill having been retained for a year it is impossible to say that—the time allowed not having expired—substantially the suit is not pending in this court. Substantially, it is pending, though only *pro forma*. But I cannot help looking with some suspicion and reluctance at a motion so brought before this court, because the contempt ought to have been brought before the court against which it was committed, and because the case has been, after an apology, pressed very hardly against the publisher. In that state of things I am not disposed to make the publisher pay the costs of the plaintiff, who came to a court which I think is not the proper forum. Looking at all the circumstances of the case, I think the purposes of justice will be fully answered by leaving the respondent publisher to bear his own costs. My order will be in these terms. The said Horace Voules, the respondent, having disavowed all intention of committing a contempt of this court, and amply expressed his regret at having published anything which in any way could be considered a contempt of this court, the court taking into consideration all the circumstances of the case, doth not think fit to make any order other than that the said Horace Voules do bear his own costs upon this application.

Mr. Greene, Q.C., Mr. E. K. Karlake, Q.C., and Dr. Tristram were for the motion; and Mr. Jackson for the publisher and printer of the *Echo*.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—FEBRUARY 21.

(After-Term *Nisi-Prius* Sittings, at Guildhall, before Mr. Justice BLACKBURN and a Special Jury.)

HILL V. DUNCAN.

This was an action for libel against the *Cardiff Times*, arising out of the parliamentary inquiry into the general subject of parliamentary and municipal elections, with a view to an amendment of the law. The defendant pleaded not guilty.

The Solicitor General, Mr. H. James, Q.C., and Mr. Vigor were counsel for the plaintiff; Sir John Karlake and Mr. H. Matthews, Q.C., were counsel for the defendant.

The Solicitor General said the plaintiff resided at Cardiff. He was a ship-builder, a lieutenant colonel of the Glamorganshire Volunteer Artillery, and a gentleman of strong political feelings. He was a Conservative, and chairman of the Committee for promoting the election of Mr. Giffard, Q.C., for the borough of Cardiff, in 1868, and the action was brought to recover damages for an article published in the *Cardiff Times*, on May 1, which imputed to Mr. Hill deliberate and wilful falsehood. On the 12th the plaintiff's attorney wrote to the defendant demanding an immediate retraction and apology. The defendant shortly after called on the attorney, and the following day the defendant replied by letter. He said he was not aware he had exceeded the bounds of fair criticism on a public matter. If, however, the article referred to, or any of it, was considered to reflect on Mr. Hill's veracity or character, he begged to assure that gentleman that he had no intention of asserting or implying anything of the kind, and whilst believing that his evidence before the committee was opposed to the facts and his own personal observation, that there was no intention of charging Mr. Hill with having stated what he believed to be contrary to the truth. The plaintiff declined to accept that apology and the present action was brought.

Sir John Karlake described this as an absurd action, and one with which a London jury ought not to have been troubled.

Before the conclusion of the learned gentleman's address, the jury communicated to the learned judge that they did not consider it a libel, upon which Sir John Karlake declined to call evidence.

The Solicitor General having addressed the jury upon the whole of the case, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages to be assessed by a referee.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET POLICE COURT.—FEBRUARY 12.

ALLEGED LIBEL ON MR. DION BOUCAULT.—Mr. Montague Williams applied to Mr. Knox, for a summons against the printer and publisher of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, for a libel on Mr. Dion Boucault.

The alleged libel appeared in the form of a letter, headed "Stage Morals," and signed "Azamut Batuk," in which reference was made to the play of *Formosa*. It was contended that this critique, which described Mr. Boucault not as a dramatist, but as a mere photographer of "ugliness" or low life, conveyed the innuendo that he did not move in such society as would enable him to photograph anything better, and that, in fact, he associated with forgers and swindlers.

Mr. Knox thought, after hearing the extracts that were read by the learned counsel, that one of them might fairly bear the construction of being libellous, and as it was right to have the matter investigated he granted the summons.

The matter has been since settled by the publication of an apology in the paper in question, the conductors declining however to give up the name of the writer.

Home Subjects.

M. PREVOST PARADOL writes the occasional letters on the political state of France for the *Times*.

MR. SHIRLEY BROOKS has been suffering from severe indisposition, at his residence in the Regent's Park. There can be no doubt that the popular author has for a long time past over-worked himself, and, being troubled with the gout, he was not in a condition to bear the trying changes of this season.

"THE FERRET" has been suppressed by the vigorous action of the police, who seized the remaining impression of No. 2, backed by the equally energetic conduct of the Lord Mayor, Sir J. Lawrence, and Sir R. W. Carden, in fining the street vendors.

A "LONDON LOCAL," last week in its report of an inquest before Coroner Lankester, printed the verdict "Serous Apoplexy," as Serious Apoplexy. Very serious, no doubt.

"THE RADCLIFFE," an university journal published weekly in term, has just been incorporated with *The Oxford Undergraduates' Journal*, a like paper, which has long enjoyed a well deserved favour.

MR. TOM HOOD is about to take the editorship of a cheap weekly paper, the *Latest News*.

THE MAYOR OF NOTTINGHAM entertained the reporters of the local Press at dinner last month. Norwich, with a population of 82,000, has no daily newspaper; whilst Nottingham, with 89,000, supports three daily papers. Shame upon Norwich!

MR. E. DICEY, whose appointment to the editorship of the *Daily News* was announced in last month's NEWSPAPER PRESS, is the son of Mr. Dicey, who was for nearly fifty years proprietor of the *Northampton Mercury*.

THE BRADFORD REVIEW, an ultra-Radical paper, was published for the last time on the 12th ult., after an existence of 12 years.

MR. SHIRLEY BROOKS has been very ill. He is better, we are glad to say, but still confined to his room. Anything that interferes with Mr. Shirley Brooks's work is a national calamity. He is the brightest and most graceful of our essayists, and one of the ablest of journalists. He writes the "Essence of Parliament" in *Punch*. For many years he wrote the first leader in the *Illustrated London News*. An Indian Summary in one of the Eastern papers is his; and his other contributions to journalism and general literature are numerous and important.—*Illustrated Milland News*.

"THE BEEHIVE."—The price of this trades' union organ is reduced from twopence to one penny, and the Rev. Mr. Solly is to join Mr. Potter in the editorship.

NEWSPAPER STATISTICS.—From the "Newspaper Press Directory" for 1870 we extract the following on the present position of THE NEWSPAPER PRESS:—

"There are now published in the United Kingdom 1,390 newspapers, distributed as follows:—

England—	
London	266
Provinces	793—1059
Wales	55
Scotland	131
Ireland	129
British Isles	16

Of these there are—

71 daily papers published in England	
2 Ditto	Wales
11 Ditto	Scotland
14 Ditto	Ireland
1 Ditto	British Isles

On reference to the edition of this Directory for 1846 we find the following interesting facts—viz., that in that year there were published in the United Kingdom 551 journals; of these 14 papers were issued daily—viz., 12 in England, and 2 in Ireland; but in 1870 there are now established and circulated 1,390 papers, of which no less than 99 are issued daily, showing that the Press of the country has very greatly extended during the last twenty-five years, and more especially so in daily papers; the daily issues standing 99 against 14 in 1846.

THE CENTRAL PRESS ASSOCIATION.—The additional facilities offered by the new government regulations with reference to the transmission of telegraphic news at cheap rates for Press purposes,

has induced the appointment of a large additional number of provincial correspondents for the London Press. Mr. J. H. Knight, of the *Kidderminster Times*, has been appointed by the above association for this district.—*Worcestershire Advertiser*.

"THE LEICESTER PRESS."—An addition has just been made to the Conservative weekly Press in Leicester. On Saturday last appeared the first issue of the *Leicester Express*, a paper "for the Conservative working men of the town and county of Leicester." A Liberal paper, the *Leicester Mail*, ceased to appear on the 12th inst.

RETRACTATION REFUSED.—There is an anecdote of an editor in one of the most important provincial towns in England. He was seated at his desk, reading the letters received by that morning's post, when an unannounced visitor presented himself. "I believe, Sir, that you conduct the — *Journal*?" The reply was a nod of assent. "I am Mr. Moore, banker, in — (naming a neighbouring town), and you have had the audacity to state, in your last issue, that I had committed suicide in a fit of temporary insanity." The editor was puzzled, but undismayed: "We had the paragraph from our local reporter in your town, and have always found him reliable and accurate." The banker became more angry. "Well, Sir, you see that I am alive. Of course, you will publish a contradiction and apology in your next number?" "I am afraid, my dear Sir, that this would violate our invariable rule—which is, never to admit that we have made a misstatement. But, as you appear greatly annoyed by the paragraph, I am willing to state, in to-morrow's paper, that the rope broke, and that you are fortunately alive. More than this cannot be done—our principle is never to retract!"—*Dr. Shelton Mackenzie*.

THE "DIAL."—The "Dial" registered as the National Newspaper League Company, is now in process of dissolution. The amount repaid to the shareholders is at the rate of 4s. in the pound upon the amount subscribed. The total amount subscribed was £37,000 odd, of which amount £20,000 was sunk in preliminary expenses, the balance of £17,000, and another £500, being paid to the *Star* proprietors for a moiety of their paper and property. The amount now divisible is the proceeds of the half share of the *Star* property reverting to the *Dial* shareholders.—*Observer*.

A NEWSPAPER-CUTTINGS BOOK, folio size, has been brought out by Mr. Reynolds, of North Place, Finsbury.—*Stationer*.

THE *Levant Times* of the 10th Dec. says that the following telegram was recently received from Galatz:—"Aground aganem ipewich chipp iwas blank delane ardella alteration compani agony brumana elanarth arrival ons ergo anna." The *Levant Times* gives it up.

MR. EDMUND YATES will in future contribute a weekly article to the *Court Circular*, entitled "Asmodeus in London."

MR. SAMUEL HANS SLOANE, sub-editor of the *Irish Times*, obtained a verdict in the Court of Queen's Bench, Dublin, on the 12th ult., of £150 damages and sixpence costs, against the Midland Great Western Railway Company, for injuries sustained while travelling on their line to Sligo.

NEWSPAPER POSTAGE.—A post-office notice, issued on the 14th ult., states that henceforward the postage on newspapers addressed to the United States of Colombia, and forwarded by French packet, will be fixed at the same rates as are chargeable upon newspapers for the West Indies and places in Central America generally, by French packet; viz., 2d. each not exceeding 4oz. in weight, with 2d. additional for every 4oz. in excess. No alteration will be made in the postage on newspapers for the United States of Colombia by British packet.

MR. A. A. BROAD, of 2, Walbrook Buildings, is appointed liquidator of the Church Press Company (Limited).

Obituary.

CASTANON, GONZALE, editor of the *Voz de Cuba*, in January, assassinated at Cayo Hueso.

CAZAVAN, GUSTAVE, editor of the *Journal du Havre*, aged 66.

FAXON, CHARLES O., formerly political editor of the *Louisville Courier*, the *Chattanooga Rebel*, and other papers of the Southern States of America, Jan. 27th.

HOGARTH, GEORGE, of the *Morning Chronicle*, *Daily News*, *Illustrated London News*, &c., Feb. 13th, aged 82.

HOLL, WILLIAM, senior proprietor of, and for sixty years connected with, the *Worcester Herald*.

HUBBARDE, J. D., many years editor of the *Hampshire Advertiser*, Jan. 27th.

PAGAN, JAMES, editor of the *Glasgow Herald*.

PRENTICE, GEORGE S., many years editor and proprietor of the *Louisville Journal*, U.S.A.

REICHENBACH, MORITZ, editor of the *Altona Mercury*, and for many years on the staff of the *Hamburg Reform*, at Altona.

Notes and Queries.

W. F. S.—The letters of "Publicola" in the *Weekly Dispatch* were reprinted in 8vo, in the year 1840.

AUSTRIALIANIS.—The postage of newspapers by the Brindisi route is fourpence.

R. Y. is misinformed. Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade" first appeared, we believe, in the *Examiner* newspaper.

"OUR DEPARTED FRIEND."—S. S.—Mr. Robert Brough died at Manchester, en route to Llangollen, on the 26th of June, 1860, at the early age of 82. At the age of nineteen he edited the *Liverpool Lion*, a comic paper. We shall be happy to treat for the series proposed, subject to approval.

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TRADE ARTICLES.—CHARLES WHEELER, Journalist, receives instructions at his office, The Oaks' Crescent, Wolverhampton, to supply full or summarised reports of the iron, coal, and hardware trades of the West Midlands. Especial facilities. Established in Wolverhampton, 17 years. Writes upon trade topics in leading columns of papers of first standing.

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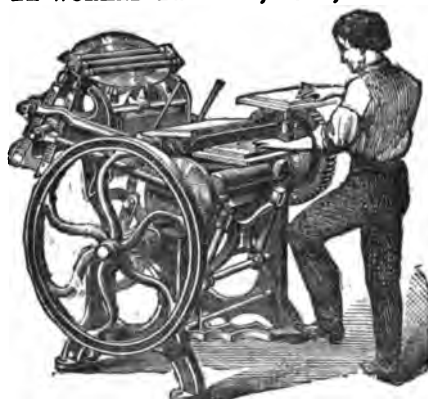
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Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

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Gentlemen,—We most willingly give our testimony to the value and efficiency of your "Minerva" Machine, especially with regard to its speed and economy. We consider it the most useful time-saving machine that has come under our notice.

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6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

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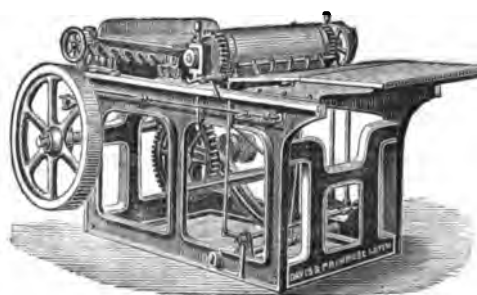
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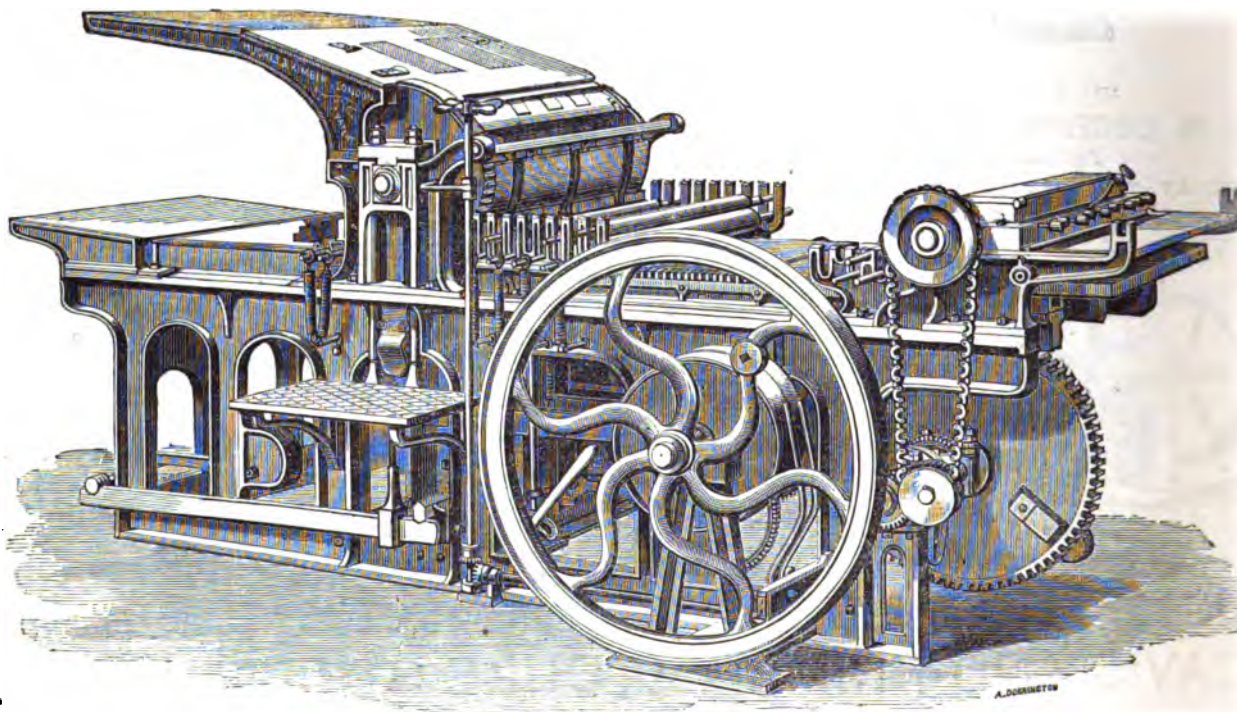


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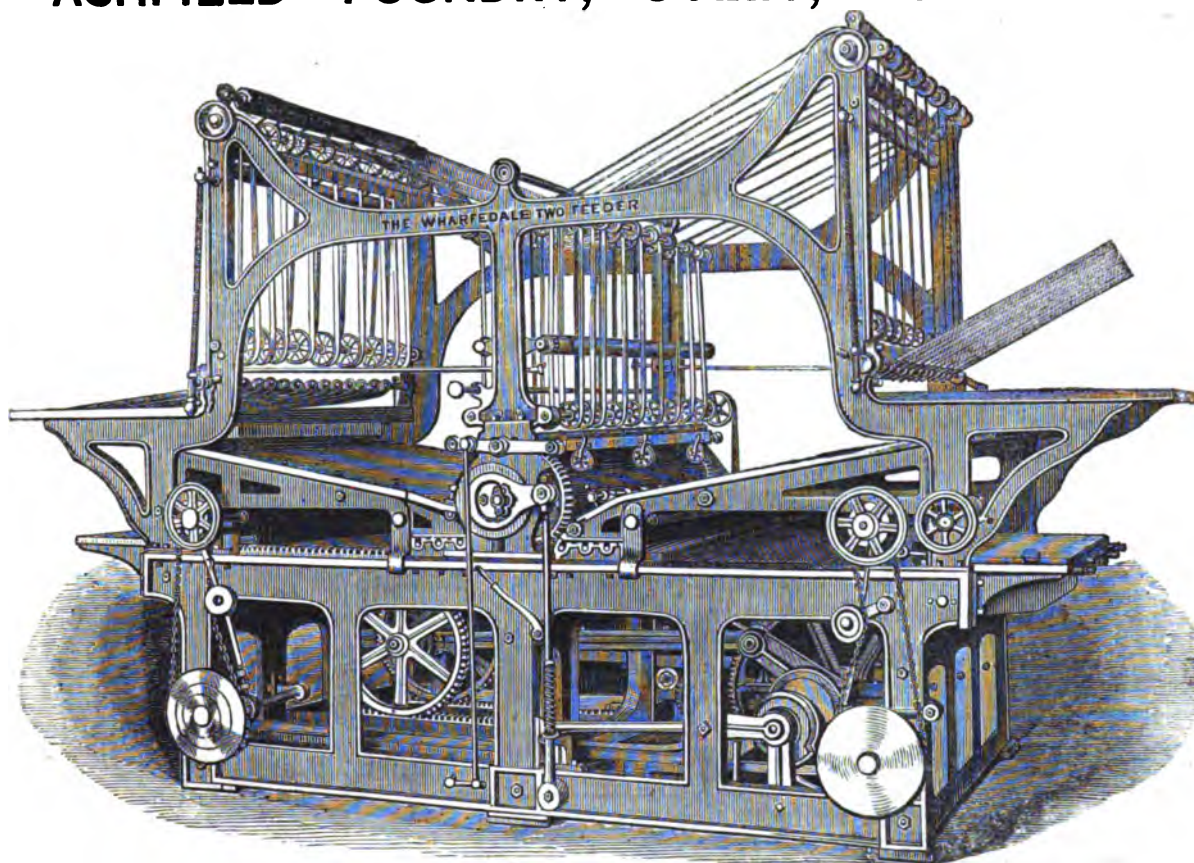
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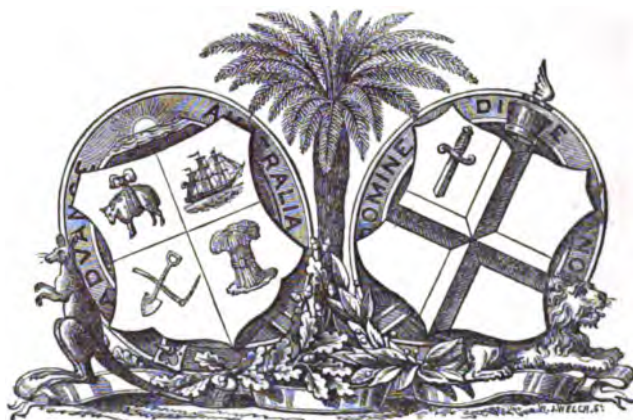
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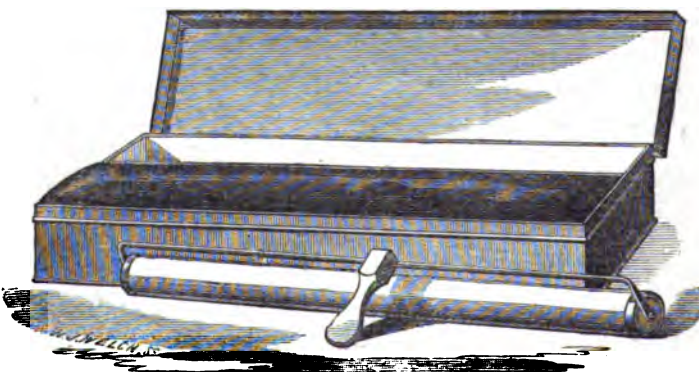
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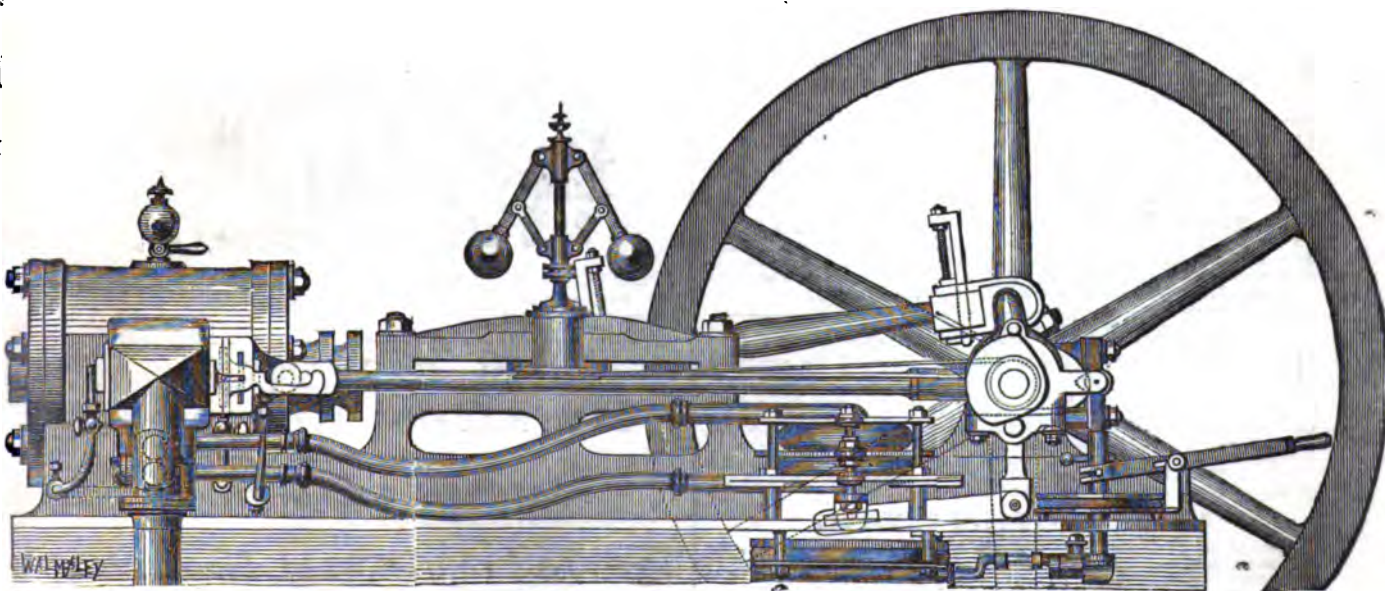
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It is not an agreeable conviction that we are taking steps backward. We have been so long accustomed to talk vauntingly of our "progress," that retrogression is a bitter dose for us to swallow. Yet in these British Isles and in the nineteenth century, the world sees a bill passing through the Imperial Parliament for the repression of the Press. *Repression*, did we write? *Suppression*, if needs must, and the powers that rule, so ordain it. No previous trial by a jury, but the old French system of dealing with the Press, without the more merciful "warnings" which preceded, and perhaps prevented, the final crushing blow. Now this is very sad; not only because we cannot say it is not necessary, but because it is a precedent of a very dangerous kind. The *Saturday Review* expresses our own uncomfortable feelings on this score:—"We may think we are quite safe from having such a measure ever extended to England, but great reflection is necessary before we hold out to the world the example of England interfering with the Press in such a way. The Irish seditious Press is so hateful and pestilential that it is very distasteful to have to hesitate about any measure proposed to suppress it." On the other hand, the *Pall Mall Gazette* sees nothing in the Coercion Bill but to admire:—"But the method proposed for dealing with seditious and incendiary newspapers is at once bold, efficient, equitable, and thoroughly sensible. The folly of formal prosecution, with its tedious delays, its uncertain issue, and its obvious mischief as an advertisement and aid to circulation, is thrust aside with summary contempt. The Lord-Lieutenant is empowered, on his own judgment and responsibility, to seize, confiscate, and suppress the whole of the *corpus delicti*, both the printed matter and the printing-plant, and so to stop the perilous poison at its source. There is no need of witnesses in this case: the proof is patent, and the offender is uncoincided; the law, therefore, cannot, in the interest of justice and the public peace, act too peremptorily. At the same time, no permissible or decent freedom of the Press is interfered with. The offender, if he deems himself aggrieved, may appeal to the regular courts of justice, and if he can prove his case, or even establish any plausible plea of wrong or harshness, can claim heavy damages against the Government. We may safely predict that this provision will silence at once, and we trust for ever, those journals which have so long been deceiving and goading into homicide and treason a passionate and ignorant people." Past experience,

we fear, is against the sanguine view taken by our respected contemporary.

The Irish papers are almost universally agreed in their condemnation of the Press clauses of the bill. But they simply indulge in invective against them, and we may quote the *Dublin Evening Mail* as a sample of the opinion expressed by the more moderate and respectable journals:—

"With regard to the Press, we have nothing more to say, and we say it plainly, but that no more rigorous restriction upon liberty ever was devised in the most despotic country than this which Mr. Fortescue proposes. Under the provisions of his bill any newspaper proprietor against whom the Castle may have a grudge; who may criticise the acts of the Government; who may offer them what they may consider 'a studied insult,' by objecting to their policy, which Mr. Fortescue calls 'setting the people against them,' will be liable to have his office occupied, the publication of his paper stopped, and all copies of it published abroad seized. The bill is not yet law, and therefore we may say that a more tyrannical power than this would be has never been imagined in Russia or in France."

The "Nationalist" Press is of course rabid, and runs into such wild extravagances as the following, which we copy from the *Nation*:—"Obedience to the law is no shield for the people's Press. By an outrage more cowardly and more atrocious than any our century has witnessed, that Press is to be silenced or intimidated. We desire to be very explicit in dealing with this brutal threat. We tell the Minister that we defy and despise it. It is not our custom to indulge in vaunt or fustian in moments of safety; neither is it our practice to shrink before menace or peril. We tell the Government that their Algerine Press-code shall not intimidate the *Nation*, and that no penalty of loss or suffering shall awe the men who, through its pages, serve and defend the cause of Ireland. This is the hour for the journalists of the people to show themselves worthy of their mission; and fervently we pray that man after man of them may march calmly but courageously to the sacrifice, if sacrifice there must be. The world must see and know that we scorn and spit upon a tyranny so infamous, if it really be attempted. For ourselves we shall simply do our duty; and if the worst befall, we can trust to the men of Ireland to stand by the old cause true as ever."

There is no doubt but that the bill, in so far as it bears upon the public Press, will be modified before it becomes law. Already the Government have yielded two or three of the harshest, if not the strongest, points of the measure; but still the fact remains, that we are passing through the British Parliament an act which virtually places the liberty of the Press in Ireland at the mercy of the Viceroy. This is not a pleasant reflection, either in its present aspect, or its forebodings for a remote future. We may complacently wrap ourselves up in the idea that no such state of things can ever come about in England, as to justify recourse to a measure which in truth must be called unconstitutional in the sense that it is foreign to the spirit of the Constitution; but who can foretell that, in the course of the undeveloped future, it may not be quoted as a precedent? and it is on that account—and on that account alone—that we now deplore what we are not prepared to call an unnecessary or uncalled for act of severity. With the Press, which has provoked it, we have no sympathy—rather we feel aggrieved that, by its reckless and unbridled con-

duct, it should have called down such a judgment, full of shame for the present, if not pregnant of mischief for the time to come.

We are reluctant to express ourselves in decided assent or dissent—the best and worst we can say of the measure is, that we regard it as a deplorable necessity.

THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PRESS.

V.—THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

OCCUPYING a middle position between the ordinary editorial and reporting staff, the special correspondent is the free lance of literature. He belongs to neither branch of the profession, yet he is connected with both. Necessarily, while performing the duties of a reporter, he is thoroughly independent and self-reliant. He is, and he knows it, the modern Thucydides. He is the living historian of the great events of the age, and he knows that thousands, outside of the supporters of the great thunderer to which he belongs, look to his quick eye and ready pen for a vivid description of the history of the present day. He is expected not only to describe what he sees in choice language, but to illustrate his narrative with the learning of schools, and the flowers of a well cultivated mind. He may be called to do this with the trumpets and revelry of a royal pageant ringing in his ears, or he may have to do it on the battle field with the dead and the dying around him, and the struggle yet going on in front of him. Rain, hail, wind, snow, frost, hunger, thirst, or sleep may haunt him, but still his task has to be performed. The picket on the verge of the lines expect justice from him, if their services are overlooked by the general in command. The tired medical staff, left far behind in the rear, know that the ubiquitous "special" will not overlook them, and when the mail returns, they will read with surprise the record of gallant deeds performed around them, or wonder that they saw not the brilliant scene which they participated in. Yet the "special" is the creation of yesterday, or rather he is the true embodiment of the spirit of a newspaper—the Mercury of the Olympian gods—who is permitted to sublimate and exalt the heroism and pageantry of the day for the edification of mankind. Technically, the special correspondent is the describer of events, not the reporter of words or the expounder of opinions, and as such he is a representative newspaper man.

When we look back and search the history of newspapers, we find that the original newspaper man was only an imperfect special correspondent. Dr. Samuel Johnson, who described the debates in parliament, never pretended to do more than to give an idea of the arguments. The *ipsisima verba* of the orators of the day were beneath his notice, and beyond his caligraphic powers; and even "Memory Woodfall," if the truth could be ascertained, was hardly a reporter as we understand the term, any more than the gentlemen who are in attendance at the Ecumenical Council at Rome at the present day. Clever as many of the old reporters were, the special correspondent does not appear to be a distinct office in the newspaper world until the present generation. The office is Victorian in every sense of the term.

If the newspaper reader will turn to the papers of the period of the coronation of George IV., he will find the order of procession and the arrangement of that imposing ceremonial fully set forth, but he will find but a scanty addition to this information. Sir Walter Scott, who was present, was exhorted to describe the event, and he did so from a letter writer's point of view, and this description, brief and meagre as it was, was read and copied almost universally. The "Wizard of the North" was no match for actual descriptive powers to those gentlemen who brought before Europe the glories of the Kremlin at Moscow, when Alexander was crowned Emperor of all the Russias. The miseries of the Walcheren Expedition, or the glories of the Peninsular Campaign, found no contemporary historian like William Russell, of the Crimea, or Bowlby, who fell a victim to Chinese treachery. The days of Edward Dicey, Winthrop Cook, Augustus

Sala, Henry Woods, Sutherland Edwards, and Murphy, had not yet come.

The special correspondent is, as we have said before, of Victorian origin. Prior to the marriage of Her Majesty, the position of a descriptive reporter on the occasion of a royal progress, or public pageant, was a most unthankful one. His presence was tolerated, and that was all. For him there was no special carriage, there were no pleasant copies of speeches prepared, no facilities for his work placed in his way. Where he went, or where he lodged, seemed to be a matter of indifference to those most immediately concerned in the correctness and truthfulness of the description. They had not, like Clarendon, a place in the cabinet, or, like Laneham, an official right to be at the council chamber door. It is only due to the late Prince Albert to say, that to him the special correspondents owe a debt of justice and of gratitude. In the *cortège* and suite of Her Majesty, when she paid, in company with the Prince, her visit to Saxe-Coburg, arrangements were made to accommodate the reporters; and at the ducal palaces of the Prince's brother, the "specials" found accommodation provided for them. From this time henceforward special correspondents were a recognised institution, whose position has only been imperilled once, and then they "placed the British Constitution on its trial" by their full—too full (!)—descriptions of camp life and camp defences in the Crimea during the Russian War. They passed through this ordeal successfully, and the prince of the order has been the guest of the heir to the British throne during the late semi-royal progress in the East.

The indolent skimmer of the morning's news, who languidly casts his eye down the columns of *The Times*, can have but a very imperfect notion of the labour attendant on procuring the information, not to mention the mechanical act of writing those four or five columns of descriptive history announced as "from our special correspondent." It may be only a narrative of a royal progress, a naval spectacle, or a military review—matters within the ordinary and regular experience of the "special." Let us glance for a moment at his duties in connection with either of these events. The correspondent has to rise early, and travel from sixty to two hundred miles, possibly more, to the scene of the occurrence. He has to produce his credentials, and obtain the necessary "passes." If he has no previous knowledge of the locality, and time permits, he endeavours to make himself acquainted with the leading features of the place. He has to note all the preparations made, and the incidents of the day. He knows probably that the bald programme will be supplied to him, but that alone will not satisfy the hungry readers of *The Constellation* or *The Comet*. They will require the addition of spicy incidents, glowing descriptions, and local colouring. The mere set speeches, perhaps, with the exception of the halting phrases of the general in command of the troops, are a matter of pre-arrangement, and copies of them are easily procurable if they are not already in his possession. Prince Albert was most particular in seeing that copies of the royal replies to addresses presented by various municipal bodies were at the service of the reporters. The late Lord Carlisle followed the same plan in his vice-regal progresses, and thus prevented the possibility of mistakes or misrepresentations occurring. The presentation of addresses is perhaps over, and the time is getting short between the departure of the last train to town. There is a banquet or some festivities later in the day, and there is a couple of columns at least to write, and possibly a journey back to town the same night. Sometimes the nature of the subject admits of some previous preparation, but generally the whole thing is the offspring of the hour, the effervescence of the time, and sparkles with fact and observation throughout. The mere mechanical labour of writing is considerable, and the difficulty of finding a suitable place to write in still more so. Dr. Russell wrote his description of the fight at the Alma on the head of a drum on the field of battle. We know that the labour of the pictures of the Indian campaign must have been enormous. Sutherland Edwards in Poland, Edward Dicey in Italy, Godfrey Turner with the Channel squadron, Facetious Murphy at a military spectacle, might each tell a story of labour and anxiety to save the mail, whilst they endeavoured to give so full a description that nothing should be found wanting when the broadsheet was scanned at the British breakfast table, or discussed at the clubs. Mere me-

chanical dexterity, which stands a parliamentary reporter in such good stead, is of little use here. The stenography required is that of the mind—quickness of the eye and a retentive memory is worth more than the most voluminous notes, though notes are not to be despised or disregarded, particularly as to the order of the occurrences to be described. These, together with a ready pen, and a fund of apt illustrations to adorn graceful language, are the best friends of the special correspondent. Possibly the day is not far distant when the mere note-taker will form a still more distinct class from the descriptive writer than is at present the case. Already there are specials in parliament and the law courts to describe what *takes place*, to prefix what is said, but it is in fields remote that the special correspondent comes forth in his glory. We shall probably never know the cost of the special correspondent to *The Times*, but we do know what they have cost in America. The *New York Herald*, at the conclusion of the American War, took the public into its confidence with respect to the special war correspondents attached to their staff, and gave us some curious statistics illustrative of this "special" phase of newspaper enterprise in America. During the last four years of the war, that journal states its special war correspondents to have been 63 in number. One was killed in action, three perished from hardship and disease. Several now hold high rank in the United States army, others have entered the civil service of the republic, or are editing newspapers on their own account. They were all provided with handsome and complete field equipments, and were supplied with funds to entertain liberally at the various head-quarters of the armies to which they were attached. The *Herald's* account shows that 123 horses were purchased for its war correspondents, of which but 45 survived the war. During McClellan's peninsular campaign alone its staff lost 11 horses. The total expenses incurred by that journal on account of its war correspondents exceeded 500,000 dols. Some of the items are curious. One correspondent returns an item of 100 dols. paid to the conductor of a train to induce him to "crack on" in order to "make connection" with a Louisville train at Nashville, by which judicious stimulus the account of the battle of Chattanooga reached New York 24 hours earlier than it would otherwise have done. The expenses of the special correspondent who accompanied Admiral Farragut to New Orleans and wrote the account of the capture of that city, which filled but three columns of a single issue of the paper, amounted to 1,100 dols. Another item shows a charge of 5 dols. for a wild turkey, caught by a soldier, and eaten by a correspondent of the *Herald* during the battle of Stone River. 150 dols. is charged for a horse starved to death during the siege of Chattanooga. The editor observes with pride that every mode, direct or indirect, that ingenuity could devise appears to have been employed to obtain news, and that nothing could be more satisfactory than the generous way in which the correspondents of the *New York Herald* lavished on occasions the money of their employers. Many of the correspondents were captured. Mr. Finley Anderson, who is now major and assistant adjutant general on General Hancock's staff, was confined for 14 months in gaol; ten days of the time being spent in a perfectly dark dungeon, with five desperate murderers, two of them negroes. Messrs. Cadwallader and Fitzpatrick were captured by Mosby's horse, near Fredericksburg, robbed of everything but their drawers, and then forced to walk to Washington. The Confederate General Morgan twice plundered Mr. Shanks, carrying off on both occasions not only his despatches, but also his money and his shirts. The same enterprising leader also showed Mr. Westfall, on July 4, 1863, "how to make his valuable watch go without winding." Mr. Anderson was wounded at the battle of Spottsylvania. Mr. B. S. Osborn, the naval correspondent of the *Herald*, was twenty-seven times under fire, and received seven wounds whilst on board the Montauk and Hartford. Mr. Wilson was severely wounded at Five Forks, and Mr. Cadwallader in the engagement which forced Lee's surrender. Mr. Shanks was struck by a grape-shot at Chattanooga, and was literally buried alive by the explosion of a shell at Resacca.

More than one English "special" has seen the inside of a foreign prison, and one found a barbarous death in China.

THE "FERRET."—We regret to state that the *Ferret* has again made its appearance in the streets of the metropolis.

THE ROMANCE OF THE PRESS.

BY FELIX STOWE.

II.—COMING HOME FROM THE SESSIONS.

THERE had been an unusually long list of cases for disposal at the Petty Sessions held in the town of—say Vernon, and Ben Flimsy, the well-known reporter of the *Chronicle*, published at the county town of Trotford, and Tom Tattle, the better-known, and very convivial purveyor of "cases" to the *Herald* of the same place, sat restoring their exhausted energies in the quiet bar parlour of Vernon's best inn. As the *Chronicle* came out on Friday and the *Herald* on Saturday, Flimsy was naturally more anxious to get home with his notes than the Bacchanalian Tattle, and, resisting all the blandishments of the latter to stay and have another glass and then walk home together, paid his reckoning and started on his way. His way was a dreary one at the best of times, but very dreary on a dark November night. Yet he plodded on till the moon opportunely burst forth as he entered a part of the road which was skirted on either side by a thick plantation that arched overhead a (by daylight) most picturesque avenue. The moon came out, to reveal to the startled eyes of Flimsy the body of a man hanging from one of the trees. The professional reporter was, however, only staggered for a moment by the sight, and soon took a business interest in it. Humanity, too, urged him to speedy action; he scrambled through the hedge, climbed up to the bough from which the body was suspended, and finding that it only hung in a red "bundle handkerchief," tore the knot asunder with his teeth and let the body drop. It was cold, and had evidently been dead some hours. "What a pity," soliloquised Ben, "that our paper is already nearly choke full, and I have at least two columns of those confounded Petty Sessions, that *must* go in! What a fine column I could have made out of this case! And now that beast Tattle, if he is not too muddled, will come up and perhaps see it, and get it first for the *Herald*. He will have time before his paper comes out for 'further particulars,' 'latest report,' and all. Well, to be sure there is no harm, as the man is dead as a door nail—*suppose I save him for next week.*" So Ben went to work and covered the body with a good armful of November leaves. "I will keep the handkerchief at present," thought he, thrusting it in his pocket. "I can find it afterwards. Good luck! What a famous report I can make of it!" Having decently covered his "subject," he sprang out of the plantation, just as Snookes the carrier passed in his cart on his way to Vernon. "Twelve o'clock, by Jove!" quoth Ben. "Snookes is always punctual. They will be standing still for copy," and on he hurried home to Trotford. Next morning the *Trotford Chronicle* came out, with the full report of the Vernon Petty Sessions, quite taking the wind out of the *Trotford Herald's* sails.

Next morning, too, entered the office of the *Trotford Chronicle* two constables of Trotford, who helped Ben sometimes to intimations of accidents, offences, inquests and the like. "Ha!" said Ben, "too late! The gale last night was awful, and I suppose there are lots of casualties—trees torn up in Trotford Park—perhaps a steeple or so blown down; but it is too late, gentlemen. With our usual punctuality—unlike the *Herald*—we are out!"

"The gale was heavy," replied the senior constable, in an uncomfortable voice. "Yes," responded Ben, "but keep the particulars of damage for us; we pay better than the *Herald*, you know."

"And," continued the constable, "it brought a strange sight to view; a dead man in Hopkins's plantation as had been buried in heaps of leaves; and from information we have received, we are bound to arrest you on suspicion."

"Me!" cried Ben, conscious that his knees obviously knocked together and he was turning very pale.

"Yes, Sir," said the officer, respectfully but firmly, "and I am sorry to say it is also my duty to search you."

They searched him with as much delicacy as possible, and only found a battered sixpence and a red bundle handkerchief upon him.

The *Trotford Herald* of the next day came out with two columns of "Arrest of the Reporter of the *Trotford Chronicle*

for Murder—Extraordinary and Mysterious Affair—Fullest Particulars; with a Sketch of the Career of the supposed Murderer." It sold like wildfire; and was profuse in its sympathy and regret for "the misguided young man, whom it has been so frequently our destiny to meet on professional, and we may say convivial, and almost add fraternal, terms."

Meanwhile poor Ben was taken before Sir Francis Popjoy, J. P., for preliminary examination. He was completely stunned—aware that his story would appear a very lame one—and the evidence against him was very damnable. First came Jonas Aylott, Sir Francis's own gamekeeper, who found the body at seven o'clock on the preceding morning. He further deposed that at about twelve o'clock on the previous night, when on the look out for poachers in "the Spring," he thought he heard a scurimage (the "scurimage" doubtless being poor Ben struggling through the hedge), but on reaching the spot he found none of the gentry he was in search of, and the discharge of a gun in another part of the preserves drew his attention off. Then came the steady and perfectly reliable Ambrose Snookes, the Trotford and Vernon carrier, who distinctly swore to seeing "Muster Flimsy," whom he knew well, "come out o' the hedge at the very spot as Jonas Aylott had just spoken to, at, as nigh as he could tell, a quarter-past twelve. He seemed flustered like," the garrulous old fellow gratuitously volunteered, "for the moon was full out just then, and I could see him well—but I never thowt he'd a done such a thing." Then, cruel blow! came a reluctant, friendly witness—the intelligent constable. He had gained a clue to the deceased; he was a man as hawked the *Chronicle*—"and the *Herald* too," he threw in—about the country, and his name was Jehu Parsons. Asked whether he had searched the prisoner, he replied "Yes."—What did he find? "A sixpence, and the handkerchief produced." The handkerchief was handed up, and in one corner, where the stamping of the pattern had been defective, was rudely marked IEHU PARSONS.

Need I say, that on such strong circumstantial evidence the prisoner was remanded for a week? Need I add, that next Saturday the *Herald* came out with a four column report and a supplement gratis, and printed twice its ordinary number?

But the jubilation of the *Herald* was short lived. At the adjourned examination, where Tattle was ready to take note of his friend's committal, the intelligent constable deposed that in the breast pocket of the deceased he had found a letter addressed to his wife, who lived in a distant part of the country, and from whom he had been long separated, announcing that, "as he was precious hard up, and couldn't get a settlement with the *Herald* people," he had determined to "string himself up"—which letter brought said wife upon the stage, who stated that her Jehu had long been subject to fits of despondency, so that she was afraid to live with him; and, finally, the local "M. R. C. S. E." gave evidence that on a *post-mortem* examination he found no marks of violence, "considerable disease of the liver, spleen, kidneys, heart, and brain, and all the symptoms of asphyxia or strangulation by hanging." Then Ben Flimsy up like a man and out with his true story, got implicit credence, and was discharged without a stain, and Scoresby the lawyer, the mutual friend and boon companion of the two reporters, worried him to bring an action against the *Herald*, which, like a wise and proper man, he declined to do.

THE PRESS, THE TELEGRAPHS, AND THE POST OFFICE.

THE very brilliant expectations which were formed of the new era of Press usefulness, which was to be inaugurated when the government took possession of the telegraphs, have not been realised. Two months have elapsed, and from all parts of the country there comes a wail of discontent and disappointment. At first, it was thought that the new formed Press Association was in fault; or that the Central Press had for once overlooked its branches, but enquiries found that this was not the case, and Mr. Scudamore complained of adverse magnetic, or meteorological influences, which had prevented the admirable arrangements of the government from satisfying the Press and the public. It was unfortunate that these "skiey influences" hap-

pened to occur just at the time when the government assumed the control of the telegraphic wires in the United Kingdom, but so it was. Time, however, has not improved the service as far as the Press is concerned, and really it seems that the telegraph arrangements were formed literally in the place of the circumlocution office.

The subscribers to the Press Association were patient at first. They knew that whilst proverbial new brooms sweep clean, newly formed organisations, like new machinery, do not work smoothly, and that the best laid

"plans of mice and men
Aft gang aglee."

They trusted in the government and time, and both deceived them. The large provincial daily papers and news rooms in industrial centres were of course the first sufferers. They had been well served by the old companies, but now Liverpool was left without news of Manchester, scarcely an hour's journey distant. One of the principal Birmingham papers did not receive any parliamentary news at all, and as for the weeklies, they received their supply in dribblets throughout the night, instead of promptly at the time promised; in some cases only one third of the supply came. Many of the provincial newspapers had contracted for a daily supply of news, varying from 100 to 600 words. This, it was thought, would form the nucleus of an evening summary of the events of the day, but this came in one instance at two o'clock in the morning, in others imperfect, and next it was a mere transcript of the London evening papers, which had arrived in town four or five hours before. The most perplexing of these misadventures was the entire omission of the supply altogether. It was resolved to call a meeting of the Consultative Council and the Press Association together, to see what changes could be made in Wine Office Court, as Mr. Scudamore and the Marquis of Hartington had complained that the Association itself was in fault.

If it had happened that the Press Association had only supplied news to the Post Office for transmission to the country, it would perhaps have been difficult to have said which was to blame, but fortunately the manager of the Association, whilst prohibited from supplying country news to London newspapers, had contracted to supply the majority of the London clubs with all the sporting, parliamentary, and general news of the day. This was supplied at the same time as the news for the country papers, and whilst the former, who were served independently of the Post Office, did not make a single complaint, the country newspapers were supplied so imperfectly as to cause general complaint. The delay was, therefore, in the Post Office, but how, was not easily proved.

The commencement of the racing season gave the first clue to this delay. The Association made elaborate arrangements for the supply of sporting events. They bought up Wright's racing telegrams. They employed a skilled agent, at a great expense, to forward the returns, and on entering the telegraphic office, he found that orders were sent from head-quarters that all private telegrams were to have precedence of his, and at Lincoln they were positively refused altogether, notwithstanding the pledge of the government and the clauses in the bill by which they secured the monopoly of the telegraphic communication of the country. The only excuse offered is, that the business has largely increased, and they cannot do more than they are at present doing. It is understood that Mr. Scudamore has made arrangements for a special wire to Liverpool and Manchester, so that we may have to report an improvement in the service before another month has elapsed. The Press Association wished to "interview" Mr. Scudamore, but that gentleman was absent, and the "interview" is postponed until May. In the meantime, great changes may take place for the better.

This general breakdown of the Post Office arrangements does not afford much hope that there will be any great facilities given to the newspapers in the proposed reduction of postal rates on printed matter; but the Provincial Newspaper Society are too much interested in the matter to permit the arrangements to be settled, without an effort to include the whole of the newspapers in the proposed arrangements. They have met, and the result of their communication with the government is an understanding that

the hint thrown out by the *Times* will be acted upon, and that though the new halfpenny stamp will only include two ounces of ordinary printed matter, it will carry a newspaper once through the post, even for delivery in the same town in which it is posted. This will indeed be a boon to many of the old journals, and is one which the new journals will not fail to profit by.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

NO. XVI. — RIGHT OF CRITICISM OF AUTHORS' WORKS. — SECURITY FOR DEFENDANTS' COSTS IN LIBEL CASES.

THE case of "*Strauss v. Francis*" was litigated in two actions at law—one in April, 1866, which came before Sir William Erle, then Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, at the Kingston Assizes; the other in February, 1867, tried before the present Lord Chief Justice of England, in the Court of Queen's Bench, at Westminster. Both were special jury cases.

These actions arose out of a criticism in the *Athenæum* of a work published by the plaintiff, G. L. Strauss, entitled "*The Old Ledger*." The criticism, it appeared, was written by Mr. Robert Lush, a member of the bar, and son of Mr. Justice Lush. It was as follows:—"Our first impression, on opening this production, was, that so many italics and inverted commas were never congregated into the same space before. Our last, on closing it, is, that it must be the very worst attempt at a novel that has ever been perpetrated. It cannot even claim the utility of an opiate. Its inanity, self-complacency, and vulgarity; its profanity, its indelicacy (to use no stronger word), its display of bad Latin, bad French, bad German, and bad English; the perpetual recurrence of abuse (or, as the author more euphemistically expresses it, "slightly digressive reflections") on great men, living and dead, and wholly unconnected with the subject, all make the reader even more indignant than weary; and how much this means can only be conceived by an operation which few are likely to achieve—that of reading the book."

The "*Old Ledger*" purported to narrate certain incidents in the history of the family of an eminent banker, including the sudden death of the father, and a very vicious career of the son; ending in a forgery to a very large amount, and the use of customers' securities to retrieve his gambling debts, and support him in his course of debauchery; and the book contained many incidents which it seemed to be intended should be taken as real, and references to living characters under feigned names. The case, on the part of the plaintiff, on the trial at Kingston, consisted in the legal proof of the publication of the criticism complained of, and of its application to the plaintiff, whose counsel did not call him as a witness, though they were challenged by the defendant's counsel to do so; and they were also challenged to put in the book which was the subject of the criticism; but this they also declined to do. It was then contended, by the defendant's counsel, that the article came within the limits of fair criticism, there being no personal imputation upon the plaintiff nor any evidence of malice. There was, they submitted, nothing but what came within the definition of fair criticism, as given in several well known cases by the late Lord Ellenborough. That definition came, in substance, to this—that any amount of denunciation or ridicule of a work, artistic or literary, was justified, as criticism, provided there was no attack on the private or personal character of the artist or author. "If, indeed," said Lord Ellenborough, "there was any such attack, apart from the work itself, that would make a difference; but mere criticism, even though erroneous, would be justifiable, unless it were shown to have been malicious, and in that case it would be actionable." The defendant's counsel, having thus cited the *dictum* of Lord Ellenborough, as applicable to the present case, put in, as evidence, the plaintiff's book, and read from it a number of passages in justification of the criticism. Before the reading of them was concluded, the plaintiff's counsel, Mr. Serjeant Ballantine, said he was not before aware that the work in question contained such passages as those that had been read, and he felt now that he should not

be doing his duty to himself, or the profession to which he belonged, if he kept up the case any longer; and therefore he proposed that it should be at once ended by a juror being withdrawn. The defendant's counsel, Mr. Hawkins, assented to this course, feeling persuaded, he said, that it would be useless to expect to get any costs from the plaintiff. A juror was accordingly withdrawn, and thus the plaintiff's first proceeding ended.

But the plaintiff made another attempt; founded upon some comments on the case in the *Athenæum*, by the then editor, Mr. Hepworth Dixon. These were made the subject of the second action, to which we have alluded above. On the trial of that action, before Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, Mr. Hepworth Dixon was examined as a witness, and stated that he wrote the article complained of, and that, so far as it related to what took place at the trial of the former action, it stated nothing but what was the fact. In allusion to a passage in the article to the effect that the question of costs was one of minor consideration, and that he had every reason to fear that the only award from the court, on a verdict passing against the plaintiff, would have been the defendant's costs—*on paper*, he said he really believed this would have been the result, and that no costs would have been obtainable from the plaintiff.

The case was left to the jury, by the Lord Chief Justice, upon two questions—first, whether the original criticism was fair, or unfair and malicious; next, whether the comments on the proceedings at the trial were fair or otherwise. As to the original criticism, that it was severe there could be no doubt, but the question was whether, severe as it was, it was not warranted by the nature of the work. It was of the last importance to literature, and, through literature, to good taste and good feeling, to morality and to religion, that works published for general perusal should be such as were calculated to improve, and not to demoralise, the public mind; and, therefore, it was of vast importance that criticism, so long as it was fair and reasonable, should be allowed the utmost latitude, and that the most unsparing censure of works which were fairly subject to it should not be held libellous. A man who publishes a book challenges criticism; he rejoices in it, if it tends to his praise, and if it is likely to lead to increase the circulation of his work; and therefore he must submit to it if it is adverse, so long as it is not prompted by malice or characterised by such reckless disregard of fairness as indicates malice towards the author. You must say whether, in this case, you think the critique was the fair and genuine opinion of the critic upon the work, or whether it was prompted by reckless disregard of the author's feelings for the sake of displaying the writer's powers of denunciation. It is all very well, the learned judge added, for the plaintiff's counsel to contend that literature should be free and unfettered. Be it so. But, then, if you give on the one hand the utmost latitude to literary composition, there ought to be at least the same latitude to literary criticism. Those who, in their capacity as literary critics, are, so to speak, prosecutors on behalf of the public, should be allowed to bring to the bar of public opinion those who are guilty of delinquencies against good taste, against morality, or against religion. The critic who sits in judgment upon the works of others is, no doubt, bound to be impartial; but, on the other hand, he cannot pretend to be infallible; and even although you should be of opinion that the work in question did not wholly deserve the description given of it, still that is not the question. The question is, whether, as a whole, this was a fair or malicious criticism? This you will have to consider in the first instance; and next you will have to say whether the comments on the proceedings at the former trial were fair and reasonable? The jury, answering both these questions in the affirmative, found a verdict for the defendant.

This second action against the *Athenæum* gave rise to discussion, in Press circles, regarding some legislative provision for security to defendants for their costs in libel cases of a speculative and vexatious kind, where plaintiffs, in such cases, had apparently no means of paying costs; and it was suggested, by the writer of this article, to Sir Colman O'Loughlin, who had, at that time (1867), introduced his Libel Bill in the House of Commons, that a "Security Clause" should be added to the proposed measure. The writer also called the attention of journalists to the subject in the columns of this paper—*vide* NEWSPAPER PRESS,

vol. 1, page 129. The question underwent much discussion both in and out of the House, but the proposed clause was not pressed in the Commons, Lord Chalmersford having, in the House of Lords, in the same session, suggested a clause in the County Courts' Bill, then before parliament, to the effect that in libel actions, actions for slander, "and other actions of tort," brought in a superior court, on an affidavit being made that the plaintiff had no visible means of paying costs, if a verdict were not found for him, a judge should be empowered to make an order, that unless the plaintiff should give full security for the defendant's costs, or show that he had a cause of action fit to be prosecuted in the superior court, all proceedings should be stayed. This clause was added to the bill, which was afterwards passed as "The County Courts' Act, 1867," and the provision was accepted by Sir Colman O'Loughlen and by many of the supporters of his bill, as a substitute for the proposed "Security Clause."

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

XVII.—THE WARRINGTON GUARDIAN.

BEFORE proceeding to give a short account of this paper, which, though not an "old stager," has become notable in Lancashire and the adjoining county of Chester, we would refer to another newspaper published at Warrington, and announced now, and for several years past, in public advertisements, as having been "established" as the *Warrington Advertiser* more than a century ago. Doubtless, a newspaper bearing this title was published at Warrington in 1756, for a short-time. Its existence was, in fact, that of a few weeks only; so short, that it found its way into none of the newspaper lists at the time. Mr. Baines, in his "History of Lancashire," takes no notice of it, nor does Mr. Andrews, in his "History of British Journalism," mention the existence of such a paper. It was, in fact, *nowhere*! But its title is now resuscitated, and it appears in "Mitchell" as the veritable *Warrington Advertiser*, "Established in 1756;" though, as showing the case to be one of long suspended animation (106 years!), it is stated to have been "Re-commenced in 1862."

Warrington remained for many years without any newspaper representing its local interests, or those of the surrounding districts. At length, in April, 1853, Mr. Mackie—well known for his enterprise as a newspaper proprietor, and also as the inventor of several type distributing and type setting machines, worked by steam—first published the *Guardian*. It has been very successful from the first; supplying an immense mass of newspaper matter to its thousands of readers. It is a paper of colossal size, containing, with a supplement, 96 columns, and averaging about 500 advertisements weekly. It has a large staff of reporters, who supply original reports of all important meetings in the extensive district which the wide circulation of the paper embraces. The *Guardian* is neutral, editorially, "in all matters political and religious." Mr. Mackie is himself, avowedly, the editor, with numerous coadjutors who write upon the leading topics of the day.

The great success of the *Guardian* at Warrington and the surrounding country, in Lancashire, induced Mr. Mackie, within the last few years, to extend his enterprise to various parts of Cheshire, where, in several important districts in that county, he opened "virgin soil"—especially in the agricultural and salt districts. He, however, commenced his operations at Chester. This was in 1857—four years after the establishment of the *Guardian* at Warrington. The adventure was regarded as a dauntless one, considering that Chester already possessed several newspapers of long standing. These were, however, papers representing party interests, while the new competing paper—prototype of the *Warrington Guardian*—took neutral ground, eschewing party, and hoisting its banner as "open to all—influenced by none." The *Guardian* thus established itself at Chester; and Mr. Mackie has since expanded it into five other towns in Cheshire, where no other newspaper of native origin had previously existed. These are the towns of Runcoorn, Northwich, Nantwich, Altrincham, and Crewe. At each of these places he has separate establishments, with literary and reporting staffs attached to each, producing the enormous quantity of original matter which he publishes weekly. At Manchester, also, he has a publishing and advertisement office, for all his *Guardians*. E.

REVIEW.

Henry J. Raymond, and the New York Press for Thirty Years. Progress of American Journalism from 1840 to 1870, with Portrait, Illustrations, and Appendix. By Augustus Maverick. Published by Subscription only. Hartford (Connecticut). A. S. Hale & Co.

THIS is an exceedingly handsome volume; and, unlike many handsome volumes, is full of interesting matter, filling 500 elegantly printed pages. It contains fifteen illustrations, the most attractive of which are the portrait of Raymond, the fac-similes of the first number of the *New York Times* and the *New York Tribune*, and of Raymond's editorial "Copy." Of those of his schools, residences, and offices, we cannot speak so favourably. The terse address to the reader whets our appetite at the outset:—

"Prefaces are not to my taste—perhaps not to yours. I have tried to tell in a simple way the story of a life, which had within it much that seemed to me worth the telling; and so this picture of my friend goes forth to his friends and mine."

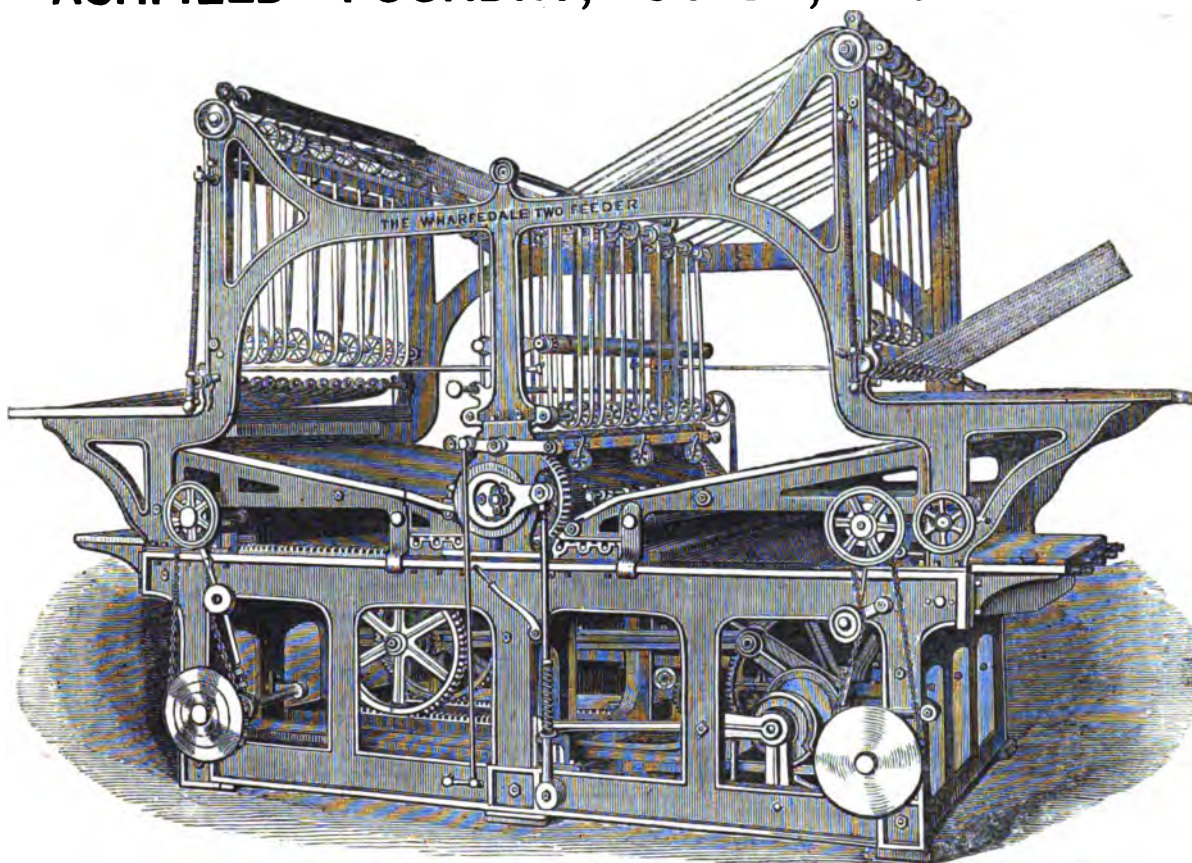
We will not say that friendship may have exaggerated the importance of some passages of the life, because we have lived so far beyond the influence of the political events in which it occasionally plunged—generally without any equivalent result to its fame. We shall treat Raymond simply in the character of a journalist, and still more esteem the volume in which his friend affectionately records him, as a running history of recent American journalism. To us this is the main interest of the work, for we have already given the salient points of Raymond's career (*NEWSPAPER PRESS*, vol. ii. page 155 and vol. iii. page 179). We therefore begin at page 193, the chapter headed "Out of Politics—back to Journalism," and thenceforth the book is of special Press interest. The first lessons which Raymond impressed upon his staff on starting the *New York Times*, are worth preservation:—"Get all the news; never indulge in personalities; treat all men civilly; put all your strength into your work, and remember that a daily newspaper should be an accurate reflection of the world as it is." These golden rules had not been strictly observed by either of the two leading papers of the period—the *Herald* or the *Tribune*. Those journals had reached their position without them; but times and tastes were changing, and the *Times* gained its character and success *through* them. The *New York Nation*, at the time of Raymond's death, bore forcible testimony to this—all his contemporaries did so, more or less, but none in such well chosen language as the *Nation*:—

"The *Times*, under his management, probably came nearer the newspaper of the good time coming than any other in existence; in this, that it encouraged truthfulness—the reproduction of facts, uncoloured by the necessities of a "cause," or by the editor's personal feelings—among reporters; that it carried decency, temperance and moderation into discussion, and banished personality from it, and thus not only supplied the only means by which rational beings can get at the truth, but helped to abate the greatest nuisance of the age—the coarseness, violence, calumny, which does so much to drive sensible and high-minded and competent men out of public life, or keep them from entering it. Moreover, it rendered journalism and the community the essential service of abstaining from the puffing of worthless people, which does so much for the corruption of our politics."

It is pleasant to hear Mr. Maverick able to write of his friend: "He had no patience with the class of newspaper editors who seek to destroy, and never offer the faintest practical suggestion for building up. Iconoclasts in every department of human life, he abhorred."

Mr. Raymond was his own European correspondent during the Italian campaign, and was present at the battle of Solferino. During his absence on this mission, a laughable incident occurred in the office of his paper. The foreign editor got up an elaborate article on the far-famed Quadrilateral in which the Austrian troops were hedged in; but, getting, it is presumed, "dry," or exhausted, he had recourse to so much champagne as to throw his ideas into such confusion that he hopelessly mixed four different subjects up in his article—the position of the Austrian troops, the military strength of Austria, the new Cabinet just formed in England, and the fortifications in course of erection

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THE "MORNINGS AT BOW STREET."

(From the *Proof Sheet*).

SOME forty or fifty years ago, the *Morning Herald* obtained sudden and remarkable popularity, on account of its very amusing reports of cases before the magistrates at Bow Street police-office. Mr. Thwaites, the managing editor, accidentally encountered, in a stage-coach, on the journey from London to Birmingham, a Mr. John Wight, "a fellow of infinite jest," whose quaint manner and racy wit made the long journey—I write of the ante-railway time—appear very short. He had him to dinner the next day at the great mail-coach inn (who has not heard of "The Hen and Chickens?") at Birmingham, discovered that this facetious gentleman was a struggling patent ink-bottle manufacturer, resolved to convert him into a newspaper man, and induced him to remove to London on a handsome salary. In a short time he became the exclusive Bow Street reporter for the *Morning Herald*, taking care not to be known as such. He merely sat in the court, as a casual spectator, without taking notes of any case. Nevertheless, his Bow Street reports were admirable, full of life and frolic, with cockneys figuring in them who dropped their h's, and Irish people using a brogue thick as a London November fog, which looks as if one could cut it with a knife. By-and-by the best of these comic reports were published, with characteristic sketches by George Cruikshank, as "Mornings in Bow Street," and a second volume also had great success. The fact was—each case, as reported by Wight, was fictitious, or, at least, only fashioned on something that had actually come before the court. The magistrates enjoyed the joke, the public laughed, the *Morning Herald* doubled its London circulation, and, as a reward, Mr. Wight was presented with a one-third interest in the paper. This secured, which gave him a large income for life, he never wrote another Morning in Bow Street. He had worked hard, while in dependence; he eschewed labour when independence rewarded his past efforts.

DRAMATIC CRITICISMS OF THE AMERICAN PRESS.

(From the *New York Citizen*).

THERE are two distinct classes of writing which are erroneously coupled in the public mind as theatrical criticism. There are a few—a very few—small and struggling papers, whose puffs of the theatres are published solely in order to attract theatrical advertisements. These puffs, which are so fulsome and so transparent in their purpose as to be without sufficient influence to work any real harm, do not deserve the name of criticism. They rank properly under the division known to newspaper advertisers as "special notices," and they are simply the result of a business understanding with the theatres which advertise in the regular advertising columns of the paper. There is a tacit understanding between the advertiser and the publisher that no play or actor shall be spoken of in unfavourable terms. The writers who furnish these theatrical notices are thus placed beyond the reach of bribes. They are employed to write readable puffs, and forbidden to indulge in hostile criticism. To denounce these gentlemen as dishonest critics is a manifest absurdity. They have no opportunity to sell themselves, even had they the desire to do so. And, in nine cases out of ten, they would resent the offer of a bribe as quickly as would the most eminent writers connected with the Press.

The assertion that the gentlemen who have charge of the critical columns of the leading journals are prone to forget their judicial duties at the bidding of interest or friendship can be shown to be a foolish falsehood by anyone who will take the trouble to read the criticisms contained in such papers as the *Tribune*, *Times*, or *World* for the past year. It will be found that these journals have criticised with the utmost freedom every theatre in the city, and every artist who has played during that period on the metropolitan stage. The theory that the writers have been bought by this or the other theatre will not stand the test of such an examination. It will appear that the theatre which was praised when it produced a really good play, was re-

buked when it furnished a worthless or nominal entertainment. The actor who was lauded for his impersonation of one character, was severely criticised for his weakness in another. If these critics gave praise only where they had received bribes, it follows that they must have been bribed at extremely frequent intervals by every actor and manager in this city. The system would have involved an expense altogether disproportionate to the result attained. The critic who required to be bought anew each week throughout the year would evidently be too expensive a luxury.

That critics are susceptible to the influences of personal friendship, it would be idle to deny. It is quite probable that an intimate friendship with a genial and honourable manager would predispose anyone to wish for the success of his theatre. The severest critic who witnesses the acting of a personal friend may unconsciously permit his regard for the man to influence, to some extent, his estimate of the actor. But that theatrical criticism in this city is a commodity to be bought and sold, is a glaring and malicious falsehood. There is no department of journalism which is conducted with more uniform independence, and with more honesty, fairness, and intelligent and kind discrimination than is the critical department of the metropolitan Press. If the political department of American newspapers were conducted with the same fairness and independence that characterise the theatrical criticism of the New York Press, there would be less reason than there now is to blush for the reputation of American journalism.

PRESS RESPONSIBILITY.

(From *Le Temps*, Paris.)

WE have long been of opinion that liberty is not the power of doing what one likes. What it ought to put in action is reason and not phantasy. It excludes control from without and direction from above, but it is only sure of escaping from them by severely controlling itself. The first essential not to be governed is to be able to govern one's self, and to prove it. Our way of acting with regard to the Press is only a particular application of this general conception of liberty. If even there were no longer any laws, no more ministerial circulars, no more procureur-generals, no more keepers of the seals, we should not think, any the more for that, that we had the right to say anything that might come into our head; and our idea, we venture to think and to say, would find in itself, and in the necessary conditions of prudence, sufficient guarantees against caprice and violence.

While thinking, like everybody, the Press offends extremely difficult to define, we have never been partisans of the absolute impunity of the Press. We have always thought that writers ought to answer for what they do, and think it a point of honour not to shirk the responsibility they may incur with respect to their fellow-citizens, society, and the state. We still think so. M. Emile Ollivier, or the contrary, has long professed a doctrine near to impunity; and one quite sees by his circular, that he would like to appear to profess it still. He only reserves for prosecution, if we are not mistaken, direct provocation to violence, appeal to arms, and civil war. With regard to these offences, especially, he maintains the distinction between articles which are opinions and those which are acts; but he deprives this distinction of all value by extending and generalising his second category, and at the same time he thereby gives career to the most capricious repression. We defy all the Attorney-Generals of France to say where the act commences, and where the expression of individual opinion stops; and we may give this challenge with good reason, for the distinction of the Keeper of the Seals cannot in any degree be rationally justified; it has only value as an expedient, and cannot, as that, be justified in practice. But in theory the distinction between the opinion and the act is vain and purely scholastic. A man cannot divide himself. Every political writer who respects himself writes expressly with a view of acting on ideas, on feelings, and consequently on the conduct and acts of his readers. M. Emile Ollivier appears to amnesty only opinions not susceptible of producing an effect. Such opinions do not so exist.

Any opinion acts in some measure; only the most violent almost always exceed their object, and even produce the opposite effect to what the writer intended.

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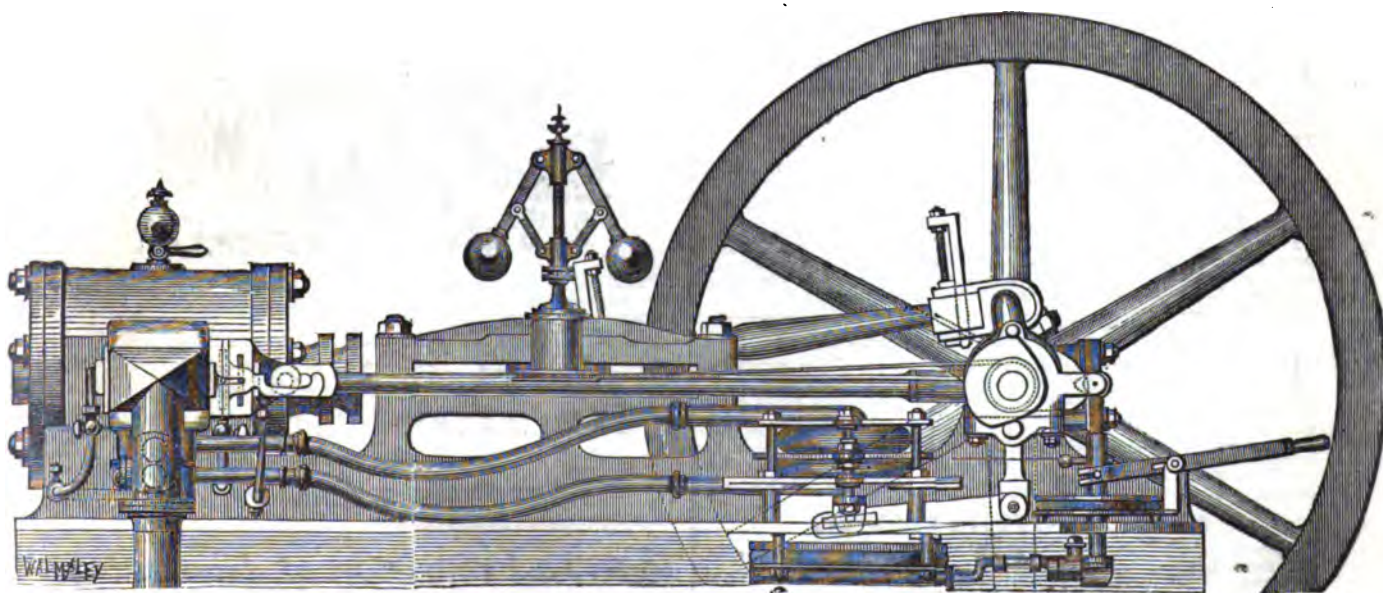
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THE "INTERVIEWING" SYSTEM.

(From the "Gentleman's Magazine.")

WE do not, we confess, admire the system of interviewing politicians, men of letters, and theologians, as it is practised by the American Press. It must be a nuisance to the men themselves; and to our thinking it is not particularly interesting or instructive to read a rough and ready sketch of the off-hand conversation even of the most eminent of men upon the greatest questions of the day, when it is palpable in every second sentence that the man is talking in deference to a vile custom of the country, that is, permitting himself to be cornered by a reporter and put through a set of interrogatories after the fashion of a Master in Chancery, but who shuts up his mind at the first glimpse of the Interviewing Reporter with his notebook and pencil as instinctively as a hedgehog coils himself up at the first sight of a Scotch terrier. At present we know no English statesman who would for a moment think of submitting to this species of inquisition; nor in our case is it necessary, for, as Frere said, every Englishman opens, like the oyster, with a knife and fork, and all that our American friends do through the disagreeable agency of an Interviewing Reporter we accomplish much more easily and pleasantly over a glass of wine at a dinner or a luncheon, and contrive to draw out under all the forms of courtesy that the laws of hospitality require, everything in the way of political information that a Cabinet Minister thinks it his duty to divulge. More than that of course we have no right to insist on; and we hope the time is

"Far on in summers that we shall not see,"

when the English Press will think of pandering to the vicious tastes which have been developed by our American contemporaries by retelling the petty gossip of valets about our chief public men, as to what they eat, drink, and avoid, how many cigars they smoke a day, what they do with their old hats, and how long they wear an old coat.

OPTIMIST AND PESSIMIST PAPERS.

(From the "Cornhill Magazine.")

As a rule, newspapers may be divided into two classes—the gushing and the cynical. The first class are undoubtedly pleasant reading at breakfast; they give one a glow of conscious virtue almost equal to that derived from early rising: one goes through the rest of the day with a pleasant conviction that one has been so enthusiastic, so sympathetic with the best hopes of human progress, and so indignant at a few lingering grievances, that the mere feeling almost amounts to a good action. It is true that these earnest gentlemen are apt to be a little offhand in settling the most complex questions; that they have a suspiciously intuitive perception of the rights of every dispute from China to Peru; and that they occasionally put on a jaunty air of self-satisfaction, which we might describe as priggish in ordinary life. But then their eloquence is so flowing, that we yield to the charm, and forget to be critical. Ireland must surely be pacified, America conciliated, and the difficulties between labourers and capitalists set at rest for ever by one gush of this benevolent enthusiasm. The value of this material, in a literary point of view, varies according to the market for which it is intended, from the flimsiest buncombe to the graceful uncton of a scholar and a philosopher; but it is everywhere characterised by the same tone of serene complacency, and the same optimist views of life. Now, admirable as the sentiments expressed may sometimes be, there is this weak point about them: they encourage the unfortunate belief that every question should be settled by bursts of good feeling. On all subjects there are two equal and opposite platitudes: the proverb about more haste and worse speed, is met by Dr. Young's celebrated copybook assertion, that procrastination is the thief of time. As a rule, the British public is only capable of getting one platitude into its head at once, and acts upon it as if it were an absolute and universally applicable truth. We rave for six months in praise of economy; and for the next six sing the praises of liberality. We discover that prisoners have been badly treated, and we agitate till every cell is made into a commodious apartment for a single gentleman. Then we

wake up to the recollection that we are taking honest men's money to spend it on thieves and murderers, and immediately go in for flogging, solitary confinement, and the nearest approach to torture that ingenuity can contrive without racks or thumb-screws. Now the enthusiastic instructors of the public aggravate instead of checking this unfortunate tendency. They have such fine feelings that they can't listen to sober argument. They throw statistics and political economy to the winds one day, and denounce anybody who appeals to them as a cold-hearted, grovelling, prosaic cynic. They turn round the next, and talk in the style of a pompous professor about inexorable laws and scientific principles, and the necessity of stern philosophy. Each time they skilfully flatter the innocent public into the belief that it is acting from the loftiest motives, controlled by the soundest doctrines. The innocent gentleman who studies their columns in his daily omnibus, is amazed at the profundity of the principles which he has unconsciously adopted, and the exquisite language in which his impulsive guesses are so gorgeously arrayed. He is astonished to find that when he was grumbling at a new tax he was really expressing the opinions of Adam Smith, and John Stuart Mill, and the Daily Thunderer; and that his simple remark that some action of Ministers was an infernal shame is the whole pith and substance of columns of scathing denunciation.

The proper corrective to these evils should be found in the cynical part of the Press; and I hold, though I may be prejudiced, that they do in fact perform some good service. They keep up the old and useful tradition that there are humbugs in existence. They remind us, not inappropriately, that the world will not be purified from all evils to-day or to-morrow; and that the remedy will not come from mere spouting, or the composition of voluminous leading articles. They save us a little of the disappointment which follows when every nostrum that has been in turn proclaimed as an infallible panacea has been tried and found wanting. But unluckily they, too, have a very weak side. They are not only too negative in their opinions and too indiscriminating in their censure: that is a comparatively trivial fault, for it does no genuine zealot serious harm to have a little cold water thrown upon his schemes; it is only the feeblest constitutions that are injured by such treatment. But they are certainly liable to the blame of being a trifle too good for this world. They inhabit so serene an atmosphere of superiority to vulgar prejudice; they look down with such boundless contempt upon all the poor mortals who are struggling and stumbling confusedly in the mire of practical life, that we somehow begin to ask whether they are not too free from human passion to be of much practical use. It is very pleasant to have a Solon or a Socrates condescending to tell us what fools we all are; but after a time it becomes a little tiresome, and sometimes a faint suspicion will invade our minds, that, like Lord Thurlow, they may perhaps be looking wiser than any man ever really was.

Correspondence.

A MODEST OFFER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

DEAR SIR,—I have just received the following liberal proposal:

"Sir,—Having entered into a contract with the proprietors of the enclosed advertisements for the sole agency for a series of years, I am able to offer them for insertion in every issue of your newspaper, for one year certain, for six pounds, less my commission of ten per cent.

"If accepted, a copy of every paper containing them must be posted on the day of issue to my office."

The advertisements referred to in the above note, consists of a string of quack announcements in close nonpareil, exceeding in length a column of the NEWSPAPER PRESS.

Is it a fact, that any proprietor would listen for a moment to such terms? Personally, I should not insert on any terms, as I exclude all such quacks; but look at the space and the price—less than £5 net!

Cannot newspaper proprietors enter into some kind of trade union to put such attempts down?

Yours truly,
A DISGUSTED ONE.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, March 25.

THERE are at present two special committees of the Legislative Assembly sitting on subjects connected with the Press, but neither of them are in any hurry to get through their work and bring up their report, till which is done no debate can ensue in the Chamber. One of them is charged with an examination of the bill for the trial of Press offences by a jury, and it has gone a step further by recommending a great extension of the functions of jurymen, inasmuch as they should be the arbiters of all political offences without any exception. But here a difficulty arose, as it was urgently required to give a definition of what is to be understood by political offences; and though, notwithstanding the great quantity of the most eminent forensic acumen in France that has been brought to bear on it, the question has not as yet been satisfactorily answered, they have arrived only at one conclusion hitherto, and that is that all offences connected with elections shall be considered political. This committee has also been directing its attention to the subject of making some modification in the decree of 1852 prohibiting the publication of Press trials. On this question the opinions of the members diverge, some recommending simply a repeal of the obnoxious decree as antiquated, and not in accordance with the present state of things in France, whilst others opine it would be well to give the Press in this matter the same standing as they are placed in with regard to the publication of the Parliamentary debates. A third question has also been under consideration, which was whether it would not be advisable in extending the competency of juries to political cases to reform the legislation concerning the composition of those same juries, and thus silence the demands in that direction made by certain members of the Left; but the majority decided that they were not competent to deal with that part of the question.

The other committee is appointed to examine into the question of the abolition of the newspaper stamp duty, and though they have not yet terminated their investigations, the prospects of such a relief to the Press are very favourable. Their first enquiry was directed towards the principle of the duty, when M. Pelletan, supported by two of his colleagues of the Left—Messrs. Glais-Bizoin and Jouvencel—as also by M. Dréolle, contended that the stamp tax was untenable, and could not be defended either on political or financial grounds, as it is an act of injustice towards the journalists to tax them to an extent out of all proportion to other class taxes on industrial undertakings. The two members of the Left Centre were of opinion that if the stamp duty be repealed, the Treasury should be compensated in some other way for the loss sustained. The new Minister of Finance is far too liberal to object to the principle of the repeal of the stamp duty, but in the interest of his department, he naturally wishes to obtain an adequate compensation for the loss of this comfortable item in his Budget. Several proposals have been made by financiers to reorganise the newspaper stamp tax, so as to prevent a loss of revenue without bearing too heavily on the Press. One of these has made a great sensation from its novelty, and is at least well worthy of consideration. The principle is, for the newspapers to deposit in the Treasury an amount of caution-money in proportion to the number of copies printed, and to regulate the price of the stamps in the same manner, beginning at one centime and going up to seven as a maximum. This sliding scale would in all probability produce more revenue than the present rates, whilst it would certainly prevent the injustice so much complained of, of making papers of large and small circulation all pay the same rate, as it would be in the power of a man of small means to start a journal with a deposit of 1,000 frs. or £40, and payment of one centime for his stamps. If the speculation succeeds, the price of the stamp rises in proportion to the sale of the paper. All journals, whether political or non-political, to be subject to the same tax in all parts of France and her dependencies; but it is proposed to remit one half of the stamp to those journals that contain no paid advertisements, either openly shown or disguised under the favourite cloak of *réclames*.

As such papers containing paid advertisements are not more than one-tenth of the whole number published, by far the great majority would profit still further by this allowance of 50 per cent., and it is thought would not press too heavily nor unfairly on them.

The following is the proposed range of the sliding scale:—

Edition.	Caution-Money.	Stamp.
Under 1,000 Copies	1,000 frs.	1 Centime.
" 1,001 to 3,000	3,000 "	2 "
" 3,001 " 10,000	10,000 "	3 "
" 10,001 " 30,000	30,000 "	4 "
" 30,001 " 50,000	50,000 "	5 "
" 50,001 " 100,000	100,000 "	6 "
" Above 100,000	200,000 "	7 "

It is stated, though I will not vouch for its truth, to be the intention of the Minister of Finance to appoint a special technical commission, composed of three chief editors of Paris political journals, three of political provincial papers, and three representatives of the non-political Press, to assist him with their opinion and advice. In the meantime a meeting of the editors of political papers of this city was held here yesterday to take into consideration the proposed motion of M. Glais-Bizoin for the repeal of the newspaper stamp duty, when, after a desultory discussion, a committee was appointed to express to the committee of the Legislative Assembly their entire concurrence with the proposed repeal of the duty, and assure them of the support and sympathy of the whole of the metropolitan Press. The members elected into this committee are Messrs. Guérault of the *Opinion Nationale*, Janicot of the *Gazette de France*, and Hébrard of the *Temps*.

M. Barbaret, the newly appointed *gérant* of Rochefort's *Marseillaise*, has made his *début* by getting condemned to four months' imprisonment and payment of a fine of 1,000 frs., for wilfully circulating and publishing false intelligence; and Arthur de Fonvielle, of the same paper, to six months' imprisonment and a fine of 1,000 frs.; but the imprisonment was subsequently reduced to four months. The incriminating article was an alleged protest on the part of eighty soldiers belonging to the troops in garrison here against the statement of the Minister of War, General Le Boeuf, that the whole of the army was devoted to the Emperor. At the trial two other editors of the *Marseillaise*—Charles Habeneck and Arthur Arnould—swore that they had seen the original document with the signatures attached; but the court decided that that was no evidence, as they had not produced the document—which they could not have done without gravely compromising the eighty soldiers—and, moreover, the style in which it was written was not like that of a soldier but rather of a journalist.

On the 10th inst., the Court of Correctional Police published their judgment in the case of Gustave Flourens, who was convicted of having got up a political meeting without obtaining leave of the authorities, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment and 3,000 frs. fine, and Briosne and Lefrançais each to three months' imprisonment and 1,000 frs. fine. As Flourens had made his escape to Brussels he was condemned *in contumaciam*. In the same manner, he has been tried on another count and condemned to three years' imprisonment, for attempting to persuade two soldiers to desert.

The *Nain Jaune*, a non-political journal, has been suppressed, and its editor fined 500 frs., for publishing political articles.

Vidal-Jean, and Leon Roger, the two *gérants* of a new satirical paper called *Jocko*, have been arrested and taken to prison on a warrant issued by the *Juge d'Instruction*, M. de Lurcy. It has not yet transpired what the nature of their offence is.

It is stated on good authority that M. de Rouville, the original founder of *La France*, has purchased the proprietorship of *Le Parlement*, with the intention of making it the personal organ of the Emperor. It is said that Messrs. Pereire have some share in the transaction, and have furnished the purchase money.

AVANT COURIER.

Obnoxious papers like the *Rappel* and *Marseillaise* are prosecuted—not for treasonable articles, but for an accidental breach of the law, which requires two copies of every newspaper to be lodged at the Ministry of the Interior at the very moment of

their publication, and for this omission the publisher is fined 500f. About half-a-dozen such cases occurred last week. A satirical newspaper—the *Fronde*—was suppressed and the publisher fined 500f. on the charge of having discussed politics without authorisation, and having omitted to submit its engravings to the imprimatur of the censorship.

A new Radical journal, *Le Signal*, is to appear in Paris. The principal contributors will be MM. Felix Pyat, Louis Blanc, Barbès, and even M. Rochefort, who, it is said, will abandon the *Marseillaise*.

The first number of the *Sans Culotte*, a new weekly paper whose political sentiments may be inferred from the title, was seized on the 19th instant, at the printing office.

Yvan Salmon, better known by his Press name as "Victor Noir," who was shot by Prince Pierre Bonaparte, had no rank as a journalist, but had been connected with several papers in various more or less subordinate capacities. He was first "gutter editor" to the *Epoque* in 1865. Then he had some small post on the *Journal de Paris*. He subsequently had to do with the *Corraire* (a student's paper), *Satan*, the *Pillori*, the *Gazette de l'art*, the *Gazette Secrete*, the *Rappel*, and, last of all, the *Marseillaise*.

The *European News* is the new competitor in Paris of *Galvani's Messenger*.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, March 26.

There is a bill now passing through its various stages in the North German Parliament, providing for the protection of copyright, and granting exclusive privilege of publication to authors during their lifetime and thirty years after their death, the punishment for literary piracy being compensation, confiscation, and fines from 50 up to 1,000 dollars, or their equivalent in imprisonment. In the chapter defining what is to be considered as piracy, the following exemptions in favour of the periodical Press are specially mentioned:—The reproduction of newspaper articles, such as letters from own correspondents, leading articles, reviews of works, reports of meetings, and other things of general interest; but conditionally on printing plainly the source from which the intelligence is derived. In such a literary country as Germany, the bill is naturally looked on with great favour, and there can be no reasonable doubt that it will pass its third reading with as little opposition or debate as it experienced in its earlier stages.

New papers and periodicals are springing up every day, and there is an unusual number to report in this letter. Giving, of course, the *pas* to the ladies, I must first mention the *Frauen-Anwalt*, the organ of the Berlin Association for the Improvement and Education of Females; it will appear on the 1st of April as a monthly, and have some resemblance to Miss Emily Faithful's *Victoria Magazine*, as it will also be edited by a lady—Miss Jenny Hirsch—with the support of several well-known male and female writers, including Fanny Lewald, Louise Buchner, Professor Dr. von Holtzendorff, A. Lammers, Professor Emminghaus, and Professor Dr. Böhmert. 2.—Another ladies' paper has been started by Dr. Strousberg, of Berlin, under the title of *Das Haus, Illustrirte Frauenzeitung*, which, on the appearance of the very first number, proved so attractive, and had such a run, that it was quickly sold to the publishers, Messrs. Wigandt and Hempel, of Berlin. A novel feature in this publication is the offer of fifteen prizes, of together 780 dollars, for lady's work, to be competed for by subscribers. 3.—In this musical country there is, of course (without intending a pun), no want of organs, but still not sufficient for the public. In addition to the long established musical papers, published at Berlin, Leipzig, Frankfort, and other places, the *Musikalisches Wochenblatt* has already appeared at Leipzig, edited by Dr. Oscar Paul, teacher of music at the university of that city, with the support and assistance of other capacities, known to the musical world in Germany: the publisher is Herr C. W. Fritzsche. 4.—On the 1st of April the *Deutsche Musiker Zeitung* is advertised for publication at Berlin, professing to be the organ of the German musicians in connexion with the Central Committee of the Berlin Musicians, the president of which is the Kapellmeister Thadewaldt. 5.—The first number of the *Alpenfreund* has just been published by Dr. Ed. Amthor, at Gera; it is a

monthly, and its object is to extend in Germany the knowledge of the Alps. 6.—*Dresdener Plauderstunden* is the name of a new weekly illustrated paper for amusement of the readers—as the name implies—published by Herr F. H. Friese, at Dresden. 7.—*Der Sociale Friede* is to appear at Neuwied, on the Rhine, on the 1st of April; it professes to be "a Sunday paper, devoted to the interests of employers and workmen." 8.—A new paper, in the didactic interest, is the *Thüringische Schulzeitung*, published by an association of schoolmen at Gera. 9.—Then there is a new periodical for photographers, appropriately called *Licht*, the specimen number of which has been published by Liebherr and Thiesen, of Berlin; and 10.—Finally, to close this long catalogue, there is another class paper sent out by the same publishers, and edited by a Dr. H. Maron, under the title of *Das Gasthaus*, the organ of the publicans at Berlin, whose association counts more than 2,000 members. The specimen copy looks promising, as it embraces a large variety of matter interesting to the trade.

According to the stipulations of the present Press law in Prussia, no officials in the pay of the State are allowed to accept the appointment of editor of a newspaper subject to the deposit of caution-money, or in other words, a political journal, without first obtaining the consent of the department to which they belong. In a special case, recently brought before the cognisance of the Minister for Education, that functionary has now decided that this restriction does not apply to the private Dooms at the universities, as they do not belong to the category of officials paid by the State.

Under the name of the "Hamburger Presse," an association of editors, proprietors, and contributors of the principal newspapers of this city, has just been formed here, having for its object to take due care of everything concerning their joint interests, as well as to make and keep up their personal acquaintance, and occasionally enjoy a social evening in company together. The committee of management is composed of Dr. Bonfort, editor of the *Hamburg Correspondent*; Dr. Hartmeyer, editor and co-proprietor of the *Nachrichten*; Herr J. F. Richter, editor and proprietor of the *Reform*; Dr. Piza, editor of the *Freischütz*; and Herr F. Menck, editor and proprietor of the *Fremdenblatt*. The association already numbers between thirty and forty members.

S.

DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, March 24.

An episode of an unpleasant and hitherto unprecedented nature disturbed the sitting of the Danish Folkething on the 22nd inst. During the debate on the income tax, Herr Steenstrup, a lawyer, and member for the Island of Aerø, considered himself badly treated by the public Press, and accused the reporters of wilfully falsifying his speeches for party purposes. As these gentlemen were seated in a gallery specially reserved for their accommodation, they were not in a position to repel the accusation at the time, but as soon as Herr S. sat down the reporters of the *Dagbladet* and *Fædrelandet* went down to the lobby and sent in a message to Steenstrup, requesting to speak to him outside. They required him to retract the words he had spoken, and on his refusing to do so a noisy altercation ensued, in the course of which the *Cand. Juris* Topsøe, the reporter of the *Dagbladet*, inflicted personal chastisement on the member. The noise and commotion did not escape the attention of the House, and the Speaker ordered the two reporters who had shown so little respect for the personal inviolability of one of the members of the Danish Parliament to be taken into custody, pending a court of enquiry which is to be held on them. It is creditable to Herr Steenstrup to be able to add, that he urgently prayed the President to quash any further proceedings, ascribing their conduct to momentary excitement produced by an imaginary grievance; but the President refused, on the ground of the necessity for maintaining unimpaired the dignity of the House, and ordered the enquiry to go on.

Dr. Sohlmann gives notice that the reasons which induced him to retire from the chief management and editorship of the Copenhagen *Aftenbladet* no longer exist, and that he has resumed his former functions. It will be remembered that last year the paper was taken over by Herr A. V. Dufos, as men-

tioned at the time in these columns, and the alteration was noticed by a few words in the *Aftenbladet* itself, but without going into the particulars of the transaction.

The Danish papers whose circulation in the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein was prohibited during the war with Germany, are now again permitted by decree of the Prussian Minister of the Interior. The *Dannerke* states that the resolution of the Minister is dated December 31, 1869, and rescinds the prohibition of—1. *Dagbladet* (prohibited July 15, 1865); 2. *Fædrelandet* (prohibited July 19, 1865); 3. *Fyens Stiftstidende* (prohibited April 6, 1866); and 4. *Koldingepost*. It is stated in the resolution that in future "no difficulty will be thrown in the way of admitting for general circulation those Danish newspapers that were prohibited during the war," from which it is to be concluded that the relaxation extends equally to the other papers prohibited, which are *Folkets-avis* (prohibited October 20, 1864); *Dagstelegrafen* (prohibited November 29, 1864); and *Midtelfarts-avis* (prohibited December 22nd, 1866). The announcement was published by Herr Zschürschner, Director-General of the Danish Post Office Department, and has given general satisfaction.

HAMLET.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, March 23.

The strike of the newspaper compositors and printers broke out on the day after I sent off my last letter, and though I am glad to be able to report that it is now over, it has still left a feeling of embitterment on the minds both of the employers and the employed. The arrangements described in my last for carrying on the newspapers during the strike, were admirably executed: a general committee of editors made up a sheet containing all the needful intelligence of a neutral character, such as the court news, parliamentary reports, money market, foreign telegrams, arrivals and departures, and this was set up in type by the compositors who refused to join the strike, as well as the women and the apprentices, and a stereotyped exemplar of the whole given to each journal, who then added their own heading, and struck off as many copies from their own presses as they required. In this way the whole of the papers contained the same intelligence *verbatim*, which was of course rather tiresome and monotonous; but the public fully understood the situation, and exhibited a wonderful degree of patience and forbearance, sympathising entirely with the newspaper proprietors; and, if here and there complaints were heard, they were invariably anathemata against the misguided compositors. The *Wiener Zeitung* alone, being the official government gazette, and printed at the Imperial Printing Office, continued to publish, as usual, its own special intelligence, but of no interest to the general reader, and confined to the usual announcements of changes and promotions in the army, navy, and civil service, lists of bankrupts, forced sales by auction, and other items of dry reading. The object of the strike was, of course, to get increased wages, and a shorter day's work; they demanded an increase in the rate of pay from 19 to 25 kreuzers per 1,000, and a reduction of the day's work from ten to nine hours; and they put their demands in the shape of an ultimatum, requiring a categorical reply, which precluded all further negotiations, though in their answer the committee of journalists said they might perhaps have been induced to raise the wages to 21 kreuzers for large type, and 22 for small. These rates were voluntarily accorded by the committee of journalists on the 1st of March to those who refused to join the strike, and it was expected that it would have the effect of bringing many of the men back to their former employers; but they were so worked on by a few of the most excited and infatuated of their own set—who are invariably the greatest and loudest talkers—that they still hesitated, till they found the high-sounding promises of pecuniary assistance from their colleagues in other countries all end in smoke, and they were fairly starved out; and after a full calendar month's strike, they were compelled to eat humble pie, and return to their work at the new rates of wages, but former working hours. The newspapers of this city have therefore increased to their former full size, and seem to make up to their subscribers for the meagreness of their late contents, giving no end of supplements, and it is especially the advertisements that

are now expanding to quite gigantic dimensions. On the day that the committee of journalists was dissolved—and it must be recorded, in justice to the members, that they all acted, during the whole of the trying period, with admirable unanimity and *esprit de corps*—and they were freed from the constraint to which they had voluntarily submitted themselves, they all addressed their readers, informing them of the result of the strike, giving an historical account of its progress and end, and thanking their subscribers for their patience and forbearance during its continuance. Some of them made rather severe remarks on the conduct of the compositors, which must have caused the latter to smart, and feel either angry or ashamed of themselves whilst setting up the type. Thus, in its address to their subscribers the *Presse* says:—"The strike is over as regards the daily papers, though the compositors on books and periodicals are still so infatuated as to hold out, hoping against hope. And what have they gained by their strike? They demanded an increase of 30 per cent. in their rate of pay, and are now content with half of that amount; they wanted an hour's less work, but did not obtain it. They have been a whole month out of employment. They will require fully twenty-eight weeks to make up for what they lost in the last month. They have discovered to their cost that their power of compelling their employers, and dictating the terms of wages, is untenable, and have found out, to their humiliation, that their coalition is an empty name,—a mockery and delusion. They have seen that during the strike the daily journals have been continued without a single day's interruption, and they have learned to their dismay that the printing of books and periodicals has been done in other countries, and many of them will probably continue to do so in future. Many of the poor deluded creatures have had to suffer privations, others have eaten up the whole of their little savings of perhaps many years, and again others have been obliged to run in debt, and will be hampered for a long time before they can hope to repay such loans, whilst all must experience disappointment at the fact, for which they were not prepared, of public feeling being so decidedly against them, whilst they fondly persuaded themselves to believe that the public would soon become impatient at not receiving their accustomed literary daily food, and that the newspaper proprietors would thus be forced to give way and agree to their arbitrary demands, made without the least show of reason, nor justified by any increase in the value of provisions, house rent or clothing." I may here add, as a characteristic of the strike, that the *Aikeriki*, one of the illustrated satirical papers of this city, in the absence of compositors for the letter press, had recourse to lithography, and the whole sheet, illustrations and all, were drawn on stone, and struck off at a much less cost than wood-engravings and letter-type.

At Pesth the strike is also over and the men have returned to their work; but they have not gained anything by the movement, nor even obtained an increase of wages.

TEUTON.

Several newspapers have been lately seized at Prague. During the last few days the *Pokrok*, *Slován*, *Politik*, and *Narodny Listy* have been seized several times. The proceedings against the editors are very severely conducted, and M. Arbes, editor of the *Narodny Listy*, having been condemned to four months' imprisonment in irons and 600 florins fine, for an article against the ex-Queen of Spain, the writer of the contribution, M. Schulz, came forward and acknowledged his work. An action has been raised against him, although the editor has not been liberated.

The sale of the *New Free Press*, together with its own house and large printing establishment on the Karntour Ring, for the sum of one million and a half of florins, has lately been the town talk in Vienna. It is said that the new Union Bank, created upon the basis of a fusion of the Discount Company, the Agrarian Bank, the Netherlands Bank, and perhaps, also, the Vienna Bank, has acquired this important property, for the purpose of converting it into a joint-stock company.

Mr. Alexander Scharff, the proprietor and editor of the Vienna Sunday and Monday *Journal*, surrendered on Sunday last to the sentence of five months' imprisonment inflicted upon him for defamation.

RUSSIA.

A new first first-class daily paper in the German language has just appeared at St. Petersburg, under the title of the *Nordische Presse*. It is published by the court bookseller, E. Röttger (firm, Schmitzdorff) and edited by Dr. Behrens, formerly editor of the *Riga Zeitung*.

The *Real Russische Zeitung* now publishes a German translation of its intelligence, set up in parallel columns.

BELGIUM.

The *Etoile Belge*, of Brussels, lately published particulars of the mysterious affair in the Rue de Brabant, for which the editor was cited to appear before the *Juge d'Instruction*, and requested to state from what source his information was derived. On declining to do so, he was fined 100 frs. "for refusing to give evidence." A similar case occurred to the same paper not long ago, and the editor complains of having been treated by the court unjustly and illegally. Much difference of opinion exists on this subject in the Press, but the general impression is that there are some considerable discrepancies in the various laws in operation, which require a revision to bring them into harmony. It is said that the subject will be shortly brought forward in the Chamber by one of the Independent members, who will give notice of an interpellation to the Minister of Justice.

LUXEMBURG.

It is considered as a wonderful occurrence that the *Avenir*, which has always been such a staunch supporter of the incorporation of the Grand Duchy with France, should have suddenly changed its views, as it is now violently in favour of annexation to Belgium.

THE NETHERLANDS.

A new Radical paper has just appeared at Amsterdam, under the title of *Het Norden*. Its object is to establish a new Liberal, or rather Radical party, but it is written so violently as to overshoot the mark, and it will probably not long survive its birth.

ITALY.

Naples has nine daily papers, the aggregate circulation of which is 40,000, showing an average of 4,444!

SPAIN.

Madrid has a new musical journal—*La Opera Espanola*.

EGYPT.

It is said that Egypt can boast of but seven newspapers, one of which is printed in Arabic, one in Italian, and the rest chiefly in French.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, March 14.

You are no doubt aware that a ballet and burlesque troupe of "blondes," of which Lydia Thompson is a member, and her husband Mr. Henderson is manager, have been starring through the States, and lately commenced a series of performances at the Crosby Opera House, at Chicago. These being somewhat too "broad" for the public taste, were attacked by the Press of the city, and, among the rest, by the *Chicago Times*. The strictures of that journal giving offence, Miss Lydia Thompson, accompanied by Mr. Henderson and Miss Pauline Markham, waylaid Mr. Storey, the editor of the paper, and horsewhipped him. The following is Mr. Storey's account of the affray: "My wife called at the *Times* office about five o'clock yesterday afternoon, and we started for my residence at Wabash Avenue. When near Beck-court I saw a man and woman go around the corner and approach a carriage which was standing in front of a house two or three doors from mine. When opposite the carriage, a man, whom I suppose is Mr. Henderson, stepped up in front of me, and said, 'Is this Mr. Storey?' I replied, 'Yes, Sir.' He then stepped back, and a woman approached, with a small whip in

her hand; she struck me, I think, on the shoulders. I did not feel the blow, as I had my overcoat on. I concluded that it was the intention to have me whipped by a woman, and to avoid it I caught the woman by the throat and took the whip from her. Henderson then came up and struck me on the forehead with the butt-end of a large cow hide. I took it away from him, when he drew his revolver. He retreated some distance, when two other men grabbed me from behind and pulled my hair. Quite a crowd collected by this time, and Mr. Alexander and several other gentlemen put Henderson and two of the women, Lydia Thompson and Pauline Markham, I believe, into a hack, and they were taken to the Armoury by a policeman. The last two men who assaulted me got into another carriage and drove off."

The result was that the infuriated "blondes" were fined two hundred dollars each for the assault.

The Hon. D. S. Bennett, the Member of Congress from Buffalo, is about bringing an action for libel against the *Buffalo Commercial Advertiser*, in which he lays the damages at a hundred thousand dollars.

George D. Prentice, the late caustic editor of the *Louisville Journal*, was, notwithstanding his political asperity, a poet of no mean order, and was the author of many very pretty pieces. These are now being collected by his son, Clarence S. Prentice, for publication in a separate volume.

I fear you would hardly class the *Tribune* among the papers "written by gentlemen for gentlemen" (as may be truly said of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, to which I believe the saying was first applied,) if you saw its occasional fits of invective. Here is one—in reply to a statement in the *World*:—"The author of the above assertion which we have placed in italics is a liar—a graceless, shameless, villanous, detestable liar."

Mr. James Firk, junior, has abandoned his libel suit against the *Springfield Republican*.

"Putnam's Magazine" is in future to be edited by Mr. Parke Godwin, managing editor of the *New York Evening Post*.

Patrick J. Meehan, editor of the *Irish American*, has been shot at and wounded by a brother Fenian in the medical profession of this city, for alleged treachery to "the brotherhood." *Tempora-Mores!* (Vocative case). SOL.

A subscriber writes to an editor in the West:—"I don't want your paper any longer." To which the editor replies, "I wouldn't make it any longer if you did; its present length suits me very well."

A large American gray eagle was brought into Sigourney. The editor of the *News* interviewed him. The result was one of his claws well sent home in the left hand. The blood ran, and so did the editor.

A Vermont editor has invented a new method of rousing delinquent subscribers to a sense of their duty. He writes an obituary notice of them.

A curious controversy has arisen between Mr. Maverick, the author of "The Life of Henry J. Raymond," and the *New York Times*. This paper attacked Mr. Maverick as having incorporated in his work an unauthorised and inaccurate list of the editors of that journal. Mr. Maverick replied in a card, declaring that the list contained in his book was correct, and that it was furnished by competent authority from the *Times* office, and that he regretted to think that the courtesy and consistency of the *Times* had been buried in the grave of its founder. This card has been copied, far and wide, all over the country, to the injury of the paper, and to the great advantage of Mr. Maverick's book, which thus obtains an immense amount of gratuitous advertising.

AMERICAN JOURNALISM.—Thirty years ago a New York editor seldom had more than two or three assistants, and their emoluments were not commensurate with the labours required of them. Mr. Raymond received eight dollars a week from Mr. Greeley. The lapse of thirty years has changed every phase of newspaper life. Each of the great daily papers of New York at the present time employs more than 100 men in different departments, and expends half-a-million of dollars annually with less concern to the proprietors than the outlay of one-quarter of that sum would have occasioned in 1840. The editorial corps at the present day numbers at least half-a-score of persons, and the reporters are

equal in force; 60 compositors, and eight or ten jobbing hands and pressmen, to put in type and print the contents of each paper; 20 carriers convey the printed sheets to the readers; 12 clerks and book-keepers are employed by each paper. The editorial salaries now range from 25 to 60 dollars a week; reporters' from 20 to 30 dollars; and the gross receipts of the first-class daily morning papers for a year often reach 1,000,000 dollars, of which an average of one-third is clear profit.—*Life of Raymond*.

A semi-monthly German comic paper is published in Cincinnati.—The *Buffalo Commercial Advertiser* has published the Hon. D. S. Bennett's complaint in a libel suit against that paper for 10,000 dols. damages, together with its answer, which reaffirms all the previous charges, and gives additional charges, with dates and particular circumstances. The defendant waived the usual legal delay for preparation, and challenged Bennett to a trial on the opening of the court.—*Anglo-American Times*.

CANADA.

There is a bill before the New York Legislature to compel newspaper publishers to declare in each issue the number of copies circulated of the preceding issue, on penalty of forfeiture of payment for advertising in those numbers wherein the law is defied. "This bill," says the *Tribune*, "is identical in principle with the laws which have existed from time immemorial whereby dealers are required to sell by correct weights and measures, and are punished for using any other. In vain does a grocer say, 'My weights and measures are satisfactory to my customers, and no one else has any concern with them;' the law says, 'You must be taught better, or, at all events, must do better. Charge what you please for your sugar, butter, or tea; but you must give the precise quantity you profess to sell, or you will see trouble.' The bill now before the Assembly simply applies this principle to periodicals which sell space to advertisers. Each publisher may charge whatever he pleases; but he must truly state what he gives for the money." Opposition has been given to the bill in committee and a minority report drawn up, which the *Tribune* says, has been prepared by some "publisher living on a bygone reputation, and cheating advertisers out of sums for which he can render no sort of equivalent." The *Toronto Globe* would be glad to see such a measure passed in Canada, and remarks, "We cannot say, however, that the public are so entirely in the hands of dishonest newspaper publishers as our American contemporaries represent. Shrewd advertisers do ascertain the circulation of newspapers, and those who are less intelligent follow them. There are some persons, it is true, still so dull as to be satisfied if they see their advertisements in print, without considering how many other people see them, but their number is small."

AUSTRALIA.

A Mr. Naylor has started, at Melbourne, a "Spiritualist" organ under the title of the *Glow-worm*.

The first daily paper ever published in Western Australia appeared on the 3rd of January, under the title of the *Fremantle Express*. It is also the first penny paper, the price of the other papers of the colony being sixpence.

TASMANIA.

Recent mails bring the report of a trial for libel brought by a Mr. Doyme against Mr. Macmillan, the proprietor of the *Tasmanian Times*. Mr. Doyme was the engineer in chief of the Western Railway Company, in which capacity the writer had reflected on his conduct. A trial came off at Launceston before Sir Francis Smith, and resulted in a verdict for defendant.

On the 1st of March there appeared the first number of a new morning financial paper, entitled the *Financier*, and conducted by Mr. Samuel Dunham, the gentleman who, after holding the City editorship of the *Daily News* for nearly twenty years, has just resigned it. The *Money Market Review* was also founded by Mr. Dunham. The *Financier* does not appear on Saturdays.

Law Intelligence.

THE CASE OF THE "CARDIFF TIMES."

HILL V. DUNCAN.

THE defendant in this action calls our attention to an inaccuracy in our report of the trial in the last No. of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*. The case did not terminate by a reference as to damages, but in an unconditional verdict for defendant.

The summing up of Mr. Justice Blackburn was so important that we give it in full:—"What is the meaning of the article which is said to be a libel? It is for the jury to say whether it is a libel or not upon applying to the facts of the case that definition of libel in point of law as given by the judge. Upon that, I think I cannot do better than refer you to the definition given by a very great lawyer in the case of *Parminter v. Copeland*, where he defines it quite accurately. But I will just give you also a word or two of explanation beyond what he says. (The learned judge read the definition of Mr. Baron Parke of what constituted a libel.) Now you see there it is said the publication must be a publication without justification. The justification must amount to this—that he is able to show that although the matter which he justifies is calculated to injure the plaintiff, still he is not entitled to any damages by reason of proving that the statement is true. That they have not attempted to do here. So that we may, in point of fact, put the plea of justification on one side. Then Mr. Baron Parke goes on to say 'without lawful excuse.' Now I have to call your attention to that and explain it. If a thing is written of a man which would be calculated to injure his character generally that would be a libel; but if the nature of the thing is such as to excuse people talking about it, or dwelling upon it, then it would not be a libel unless it went beyond what was fair and right. Now Col. Hill had given evidence before the committee, not upon oath, though that is a very little matter, but in giving his evidence he had stated matters which he delivered as his evidence to the effect that the last election for Cardiff had been a riotous election, and that the town had been in the hands of a mob, and, in fact, that the election was not one at all creditable to the town. That was a public matter concerning them all, upon which it was perfectly excusable for the Cardiff newspapers to comment, if they did not go beyond fair limits. You may excuse up to a certain extent a good deal which would otherwise have been libellous. For instance, if it had been a volunteer attack upon somebody not connected with Cardiff at all that would have been a very different thing. If the newspapers had said Col. Hill is altogether wrong in the evidence which he gave, and we suggest that the evidence is untrue, people may be excused for saying that, for it would not be saying anything beyond what was fair and right. But if, instead of saying that, they were to go on to say Colonel Hill has told downright lies when giving his evidence, that would not be excusable, and if they have gone to the full extent of saying that, it will be for you to say whether that is not going too far. But if you think that they have not exceeded the fair and reasonable limits of criticism, you will not give Colonel Hill your verdict. It strikes me that the case lies between those two limits which I have put to you. No doubt it is a little difficult to know exactly where one ends and the other begins, or the exact extent to which such an article might go, or to describe the bounds which would prevent its being a libel. I think it will be by applying some such test as that that you will have to say who is entitled to your verdict. You will take it into your consideration as a matter of fact with which you have to deal. If you think, as a matter of fact, that the article imputes falsehood to Col. Hill, then I am inclined to think that that would convey a meaning which would be beyond excuse, and would be, therefore, libellous, although, after the apology which had been offered, disclaiming any such intention as that, it would cut down the damages of such a libel very much indeed. Still there would be damages if you think it went to such a length as to constitute a libel. If it was merely saying that his evidence was incorrect—that it was a total misrepresentation of the state of Cardiff, I think that would not be libellous."

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.—MARCH 4.

IN RE MILL.—THE "PETERBOROUGH TIMES."

This was an examination and discharge meeting in the bankruptcy of John Mill, late of Moreton-terrace, Pimlico, and of New-Inn, Strand, formerly of Peterborough, author, printer, and publisher of the *Peterborough Times*. He ascribes his failure to his premises being violently broken open in June last, whereby his business was entirely stopped and his credit destroyed. The debts are stated at £5111.

The bankrupt in examination stated that he had received upwards of £801. for literary work before his connection with the *Peterborough Times*; 1001. of this was for a work on education, and 501. for a work on Brazil. He had been ordered to file an account of his book debts, but he was unable to do so, the books not being in his possession.

Mr. Nicholson, who opposed for the assignees, asked that the accounts should be amended; and an adjournment was ordered for that purpose.

BOW-STREET.—FEB. 26.

Zia Bey, proprietor of the *Hurriyet*, a Turkish newspaper, having offices at 27, Rupert-street, Haymarket, was brought up in custody, having been apprehended on a warrant which charged him with having printed and published, or caused to be printed and published, a certain false and defamatory libel of and concerning one Aali Pacha, Prime Minister to the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire, and with having incited divers persons to assassinate the said Aali Pacha.

Mr. Poland, barrister, instructed by the solicitors to the Treasury, conducted the prosecution. Mr. Abrams defended.

The learned counsel, in his opening address, produced a number of the *Hurriyet*, which contained an article in the Turkish language, setting out

that by the laws of Islam, as evidenced by three books of its jurisprudence, it was a religious duty to slay all oppressors or persons assisting oppressors. The paragraph containing the libel ran thus, "And, by God the bountiful, the infamous miscreant whose slaughter is a bounden duty is—*se ye*—the ignominious Pacha."

Defendant was remanded on bail, which in consequence of his absconding before his next examination, were estreated.

Captain Gauntlett has obtained a verdict, with 125 guineas damages, in an action for libel brought at Newcastle Assizes against the proprietor of the *Hawick Advertiser*, in which it had been stated that the plaintiff had backed out of the payment of a bet.

At Newport, Isle of Wight, on the 5th ult., Patrick O'Brien, of Ventnor, was committed for trial on a charge of libel preferred by Mr. Fletcher Moore, of Ventnor. Both parties were members of the Local Board of Health. The libel consisted of a letter which defendant inserted as an advertisement in his newspaper, accusing the complainant of lying, also causing a number of letters to be printed and circulated. The defendant was admitted to bail.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. JAMES PAGAN.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

IN our Necrology last month we gave a short memoir of Mr. Pagan, editor of the *Glasgow Herald*. The time intervening between his death and the publication of our journal being too brief to admit of our getting the full information we desired, we this month add a few particulars to the somewhat meagre sketch already given.

Mr. Pagan was born in Dumfries, in 1811, his parents occupying a very respectable position in society, and after receiving an excellent education he entered the office of the *Dumfries Courier*, then owned and edited by the late Mr. John M'Diarmid. The future editor could have had no better tutorship than that of this gentleman, and Mr. Pagan, as reporter on the *Courier*, soon gave evidence of his abilities and originality. It may be said that he was the first in Scotland to develop a wider field for the pencil of the short-hand writer; and his special aptitude for this work attracted attention far beyond the boundaries of his native town.

In 1839—the year and on the very week, we believe, in which Mr. Samuel Hunter died—Mr. Pagan came to Glasgow, and joined the staff of the *Glasgow Herald*, then published only twice a week, so that he has been connected with this journal for the long period of thirty years. He devoted himself assiduously to his profession, and the result was an entire revolution in this department of journalism in the West of Scotland. Previously reports of public meetings, no matter how important, and of public events, no matter how interesting, had been of the most meagre description; but on our deceased friend's coming to this city all this was altered. He gave extended reports of every matter of interest, and the public, unaccustomed to this kind of treatment, were agreeably surprised, and warmly appreciated his efforts. Indeed, it is in no small degree to his labours in this respect, and the shrewdness that directed them, that the Scottish Press rapidly rose in importance, and became the mirror in which is reflected the events of our daily national life. We believe that, some years after he had settled in Glasgow, Mr. Pagan had a most advantageous offer from London—the leading position, in fact, as a reporter on the leading journal of Great Britain.

In 1856, when Mr. George Outram died, Mr. Pagan was promoted to the editorial chair—an office which, on account of Mr. Outram's health, he had practically filled for some time before. A year or so previous to his assuming the editorial reins he had become a proprietor of the concern with which he had been so long connected, and which he had so worthily served. His career since is to a large extent identified with that of this journal, and his labours are therefore before the public. As editor and manager, his sagacity and shrewdness were of immense service in guiding the *Herald* through the troublous times of the abolition of the penny stamp duty, its reduction in price, and conversion from a tri-weekly into a daily paper. Mr. Pagan, though usually cautious, was nevertheless bold, and even daring, when action of this kind had become necessary; and he seldom miscalculated the time and the pressure of events. The highest praise that can be given to an editor and manager belonged in an eminent degree to him—he was entirely successful.

Although much occupied with his duties, Mr. Pagan found some time to cultivate his taste for historical and archaeological subjects. He published a history of Glasgow, which contains a great mass of interesting matter concerning the city not to be found readily elsewhere. We believe Mr. Pagan's studies were directed at this time by his friend the late Mr. Joseph Robertson, the learned and well-known student of Scottish historical records. Mr. Pagan also published an elegant sketch of the history of the cathedral, which, to the present time, forms the best guide to that venerable building. Our lamented friend's knowledge of old Glasgow, and of old Glasgow families, was extraordinarily extensive and minute, and his stories of the quaint city life of the olden time were pleasingly relieved and lightened by his ready wit and racy anecdotes.

Mr. Pagan, who was only in his 59th year, was a widower, and has left a son and two daughters.

M. HENRI DE RIANCY.

The Parisian Press has lost one of its most respected members—M. Henri de Riancy, editor of the *Union*. His opinions were Legitimist and Clerical, but though his views were very extreme he was ever a fair, upright, and courteous opponent, and won the respect of all, and the friendship of many of his most determined antagonists. In his own party his consistency and talent made him an idol, and the unanimous feeling of regret expressed at his untimely death (he was only 53) must afford some consolation to the bereaved ones he leaves behind him.

MR. WILLIAM BROUGH.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. William Brough, a gentleman who has been known as a journalist, essayist, and dramatist, for the last 22 years. As a writer of burlesque and extravaganza Mr. Brough had few equals. There is scarcely a theatre in the United Kingdom that has not had his pieces produced upon its boards; and the facile pen now at rest for ever will be missed by countless playgoers. In addition to the numerous extravaganzas of which he was the author, many of his comedies and farces have achieved the widest popularity. His "Odd Fellow Column," published some ten years ago in the *Era* newspaper, was a humorous commentary on passing events. Mr. William Brough died at his residence, 37, Maitland Park Road, Haverstock Hill, on the 13th inst., at the age of 44, after a lingering illness of some months.

MR. H. H. DIXON.

We have to regret the loss of a leading magazine writer and sporting journalist, Mr. H. H. Dixon. One of the most persevering, hard-working literary men of the day, Mr. Dixon was a prolific contributor to our periodical literature. In the "Gentleman's Magazine" his well-known signature "H. H. D." was to be seen regularly every month; and in that publication we shall not perhaps be incorrect if we say that his best articles appeared. "The Druid" was an indefatigable collector of that description of information which editors appreciate. With "facts, facts, facts," as Mr. Gradgrind has it, Mr. Dixon's articles were replete; he had a good literary style, too; and when a story had to be narrated few could excel "The Druid" in its recital. Mr. Dixon was the author of "Pink and Scarlet," "The Post and the Paddock," "Scott and Sebright," &c., and was a frequent contributor to the *Daily News* and many other journals.

POSTAGE OF NEWSPAPERS, PARCELS, &c.—On the 1st of April next, and thenceforward, registered newspapers, for all places abroad, without distinction, will be chargeable according to weight, and each newspaper, whether sent singly or in a packet containing more than one, will be liable to a separate rate of postage for every four ounces or fraction of four ounces. There will be no alteration in the present rates of postage for single newspapers weighing less than four ounces. On and from the same date, a limit will be fixed to the gross weight of a packet of newspapers, books, or patterns addressed to any place abroad, and no packet (parliamentary proceedings only excepted) exceeding 5lbs. in weight will be forwarded through the post.

Home Subjects.

OLD DUBLIN NEWSPAPERS.—At a recent sale of books at Jones's in D'Ollier Street, Dublin, a neatly bound collection of newspapers, published in Dublin from the year 1700 to 1724, was sold. On the back of each volume was the crest and coronet of the Earl of Mornington, whose property they had formerly been.

FAREWELL DINNER TO A REPORTER.—A number of friends assembled at the Crown Hotel, Westgate, to bid farewell to Mr. J. A. Slade, who is severing his professional connection with the *Huddersfield Observer* to occupy a responsible position upon the *Macclesfield Courier*.

THE PROPRIETORS OF THE ILLUSTRATED MIDLAND NEWS announce a grand double number for April the 9th, with which will be given the largest and best work in colour printing ever issued, the subject being "The Fisherman's Pride," by J. J. Hill, member of the Society of British Artists.

"THE OWL" reappeared for the season on the 19th ult.

MR. H. KINGSLEY.—A little while ago Mr. Henry Kingsley left London for the Modern Athens, where he was to conduct a journal that was to shake the arsenal and fulmine over Greece. The experiment does not seem to have answered. The gentleman in question, it is said, will abdicate the editorial chair. Good writers, it may be remarked, do not always make good editors.—*Literary World*.

THE TELEGRAPHS AND THE PRESS.—The *Globe* complains of the new postal telegraph system, which has given very little satisfaction to the public, and none at all to the Press. Messages have been unwarrantably delayed—some never arriving until the papers were at press, and therefore becoming utterly useless. Unless affairs improve, we shall be obliged to have recourse to carrier-pigeons, as in the old days before telegraphs were, and when the postal system was in its infancy. The Press Association fell back upon this mode of conveyance the other day, and were favoured with complete success.

MR. HOLL.—In the Monthly Necrology of our March No. we gave some particulars of the late Mr. Holl, proprietor of the *Worcester Herald*. We are indebted to the *Illustrated Midland News* for the following additional information. Mr. Holl, and his former partner Mr. Chalk, were the first to introduce reporting and steam printing into Worcestershire. The interest of Mr. Holl passes into the hands of his sons, a barrister and a doctor. Mr. Darke is the surviving partner, and the paper is edited by Mr. H. F. Howitt, a relative, we believe, of the Howitts of poetic fame.

MR. EDWARD LEGGE, a well known Midland journalist, is about publishing, through Mr. Hotten of Piccadilly, a volume of poems, tales, &c., under the title of "Wayside Sketches."

THE DEAN OF CANTERBURY has resigned the editorship of the *Contemporary Review*.

A NEW PUBLICATION has just appeared, under the title of the *National Church*. It is to be the organ of a well-known public body, and is especially destined to annihilate the *Liberator*—the organ of the Anti-State Church party. It is published by Messrs. Simpkin & Marshall.

BIRMINGHAM is to have a new literary journal, the *Torch*.

THE COLONIST, a weekly journal, devoted to the promotion of colonial interests and the integrity of our "Colonial Empire," is announced to appear.

THE CARDIFF LIBEL CASE.—Mr. Duncan, of the *Cardiff Times*, and his friends were treated to an ovation on their return from London after his successful defence of the late action for libel. A procession, headed by a band, met them at the station and escorted them home in triumph.

ORATION OR EPITAPH?—It started well—it meant well—it did well. It made one mistake, but quickly retraced its steps, and, leaping back,—retrieved its position, or broke its neck. Which is it to be? We will give the answer to the riddle within twelve months.

THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS.—It is not a little singular that illustrated journalism should owe so much to countrymen. Mr. Ingram, the founder of the *Illustrated London News*, was a Lincolnshire man, and he projected the famous London paper at Nottingham. His partner, Mr. Cooke (who is connected with the *Graphic*), was a native of Worcestershire. It is said that the *Illustrated London News* paid from the first week. The idea occurred to Mr. Ingram through the great additional sale which any newspaper in London or the country obtained when accompanied by a picture. "If one illustration makes so much difference," said Mr. Ingram, "what an enormous sale a paper would have which should be full of pictures." Everybody knows what a happy thought that was. The *Illustrated London News* is famous, as it deserves to be, all over the world. Competitors from time to time have sprung up, with but partial success. Mr. Ingram was jealous of opposition. He bought the *Illustrated Times*, and this, together with the *Penny Illustrated Paper*, belongs to the same proprietary as the

Illustrated London News. Mrs. Ingram, a most estimable lady (widow of the late proprietor, who was member for Boston), is the sole owner of the *Illustrated London News*. The first Christmas supplement of that paper was suggested by Mr. Ingram, and produced by that veteran journalist, Mark Lemon, whose pen (with that of the most graceful essayist of these modern days, Shirley Brooks) has adorned its pages ever since.—*Gentleman's Magazine*.

YARMOUTH.—The directors of the Free Press Newspaper and Printing Company (Limited) held their annual meeting at the Angel Hotel, great Yarmouth, and returned a dividend of 20 per cent. per share on the past year's business. The entire staff of the *Yarmouth Independent* were afterwards entertained at the Angel Hotel by the directors of the newspaper. Mr. W. T. Fisher occupied the chair, and Mr. George Nall (the publisher) the vice-chair.

A NEW WEEKLY JOURNAL is announced—the *Knife and Fork*—to be conducted by "Fin-Bec" [Blanchard Jerrold], the author of "The Epicure's Year Book."

BATH.—The proprietorship of the *Bath Express* changed hands on the 1st February, and it will henceforth be a Liberal paper, devoted to Liberal principles, under the title of the *Bath Express and County Herald*.

MARGATE has just got a newspaper of its own—or rather in conjunction with its neighbour, Ramsgate, *Keble's Margate and Ramsgate Gazette* having been started on the 8rd ult.

WAREHAM, in Dorsetshire, is at last to have a paper of its own—Mr. Charles J. Green, a printer, having determined to commence in April a weekly journal under the title of the *Wareham and Isle of Purbeck Advertiser*. The price will be one penny; and the politics are to be "neutral."

THE PRESS IN IRELAND.—Mr. Chichester Fortescue, in introducing his bill for the better preservation of the peace in Ireland, thus explains its provision for the regulation of the Press:—"The next provision related to the Press; and the object of the government being not so much to punish the individual as to stop an evil, he proposed to prosecute not the person but the paper which was the instrument of treasonable, seditious, or felonious writings. Power would, therefore, be taken to stop any paper containing such matter, by seizing, under the Lord Lieutenant's warrant, the plant in the office where the paper was published, and all copies of the paper found there. Like power would be given to seize all copies of any paper of the same description, wherever printed, if found in Ireland. As a check upon the undue exercise of that power, however, and to secure redress to any person who felt himself aggrieved, he would have a right of action against the officer executing the warrant."

MR. MOWBRAY MORRIS.—We regret to state that this gentleman, the well-known and highly respected manager of *The Times*, is suffering from severe illness.

A NEW JOURNAL.—We have reason to believe that a new weekly journal, the organ of the Constitutional party, will soon appear. It will appeal more directly to the working classes of the country.—*Rock*.

NEWSPAPERS FOR CANADA VIA THE UNITED STATES.—Henceforward the whole postage on newspapers for Canada, addressed via the United States, including both the British rate of one penny and the United States' transit rate of like amount, will be collected in advance, instead of part being paid in this country and part in Canada. Twopence must, therefore, be prepaid, in future, on each newspaper for Canada not exceeding four ounces in weight, intended to be sent via the United States, and twopence additional for every four ounces in excess. Any newspaper which may not be fully prepaid for transmission via the United States will be forwarded by the direct Canadian packets.—General Post Office, March 28, 1870.

THE IRISH PRESS.—Much excitement was caused in Ennis on Saturday by the police tearing down the placards of the *Flag of Ireland* and the *Weekly News*. They also entered the news-vendors' shops and destroyed those found there. The placards contained such striking lines as "Chains for Ireland," "Gagging the Press," "The Reign of Terror."

"**CHARLES'S WAIN**" is the title of a new penny weekly paper, commenced on the 22nd March. It is small in size, consisting of eight pages of two columns each; but the projectors give their readers large type to compensate probably for a small paper. Some of the articles, of which there are only six of any pretensions, are not wanting in spirit or vigour of style.

AMENDMENT OF THE IRISH PRESS LAW.—By an amendment of the Press clauses of the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill, carried by the House of Commons, no paper is to be seized under the Lord Lieutenant's warrant, unless a notice or warning has been given two days before in the case of a daily, and seven days in that of a weekly newspaper, and the plant, material, copies of the paper, &c., seized are not to be destroyed or sold, but detained until the determination of any action brought by the proprietor, to be restored to him in the event of the verdict passing in his favour.

Obituary.

BRIAN, BARON DE, a distinguished Paris journalist, aged 83.
 BROUGH, WILLIAM, journalist and dramatic author, March 15th, aged 43.
 DELAMARRE, PAUL, a French journalist of note, and formerly proprietor of the *Patrie*, at Paris.
 DIXON, H. H., contributor on sporting subjects to the *Daily News*, and other journals.
 JOLY, VICTOR, editor of the Belgian weekly paper *Sancho*, at Brussels.
 RIANCY, HENRI DE, chief editor of the *Union*, of Paris.
 SWEETZER, HENRY E., of the *New York World*, and formerly of the *Round Table*, suddenly, 17th February.
 WINCKLER, PHILIP, editor of the Rostock *Jagblatt*, at Wicmar.

Notes and Queries.

NEWSPAPER STAMPS.—J. C. P.—Mr. Palmer, of 2, Catherine Street, Strand, is the only dealer, so far as we know, in old newspaper stamps; and we believe his collection only ranges between 1809 and the extinction of the stamp. We have them from the commencement of the impost in the reign of Queen Anne, but in very far from a complete series, and shall be happy to exchange.

B. R. B.—At the period to which you refer, John Sterling and Frederic Maurice were believed to be joint editors of the *Athenaeum*.

H. B. S.—Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" first appeared in the *Washington National Era*.

R. B.—It could not be considered as strictly a newspaper. It was published at Valetta, Malta, in 1846, and the title was *The St. James's Biduel Intelligence and Matutinal Chronicle*.

W. J. S.—The *Weekly Chronicle* was, in 1841, the property of Mr. H. G. Ward, M.P. for Sheffield. It was a paper of extreme Radical views, established in 1836, and the price was sixpence.

AMERICAN EXCHANGES.—The *Proof Sheet* and the *Printers' Circular* come to hand very irregularly—particularly the latter. We have not received the *Advertiser, Gazette* for some months.

CARLOW COLLEGE MAGAZINE.—Received, but not suitable for exchange.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF NEW JOURNALS.—We must request that notification of forthcoming papers may be full and explicit. We received a card two months ago of "THE MILLION, an Illustrated Journal for Everybody," and were consequently led to announce it as "a new illustrated paper." It turned out to be a periodical of the class with which the "London Journal" has made a certain portion of the reading public familiar; but, in no sense, a *Newspaper*. We have no objection to make such publications known, but they must be content to come under our occasional side heading of "THE PERIODICAL WORLD"—a collateral but entirely subordinate branch of our main subject.

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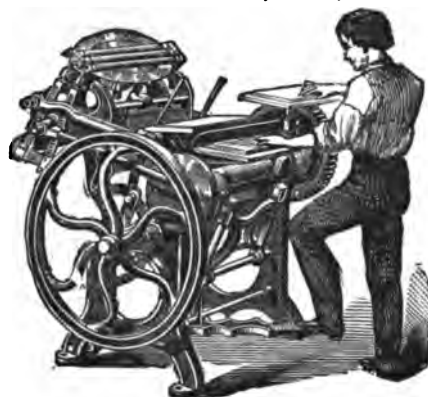
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TESTIMONIALS.

31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

Messrs. H. S. Cropper and Co.

Gentlemen,—We have pleasure in informing you that the "Minerva" Printing Machine, supplied to us about two months ago, gives us entire satisfaction. The simplicity of its arrangement, beauty of construction, and excellence of workmanship, combined with its other qualifications, justify all that you told us in its favour. The ease of its motion, and its great speed, are important features in the "Minerva;" whilst the freedom from danger in working assists in rendering it a very desirable machine.

Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

Messrs. Cropper and Co., Nottingham.

Gentlemen,—We most willingly give our testimony to the value and efficiency of your "Minerva" Machine, especially with regard to its speed and economy. We consider it the most useful time-saving machine that has come under our notice.

We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
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6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

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D. CULROSS.

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Messrs. Cropper and Co.

Halifax, 23rd October, 1867.

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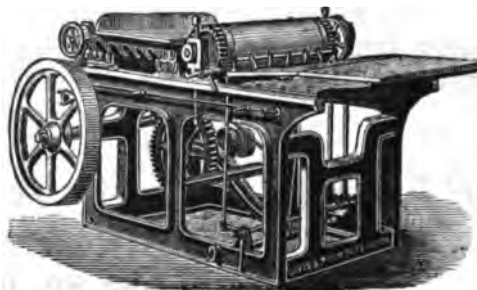


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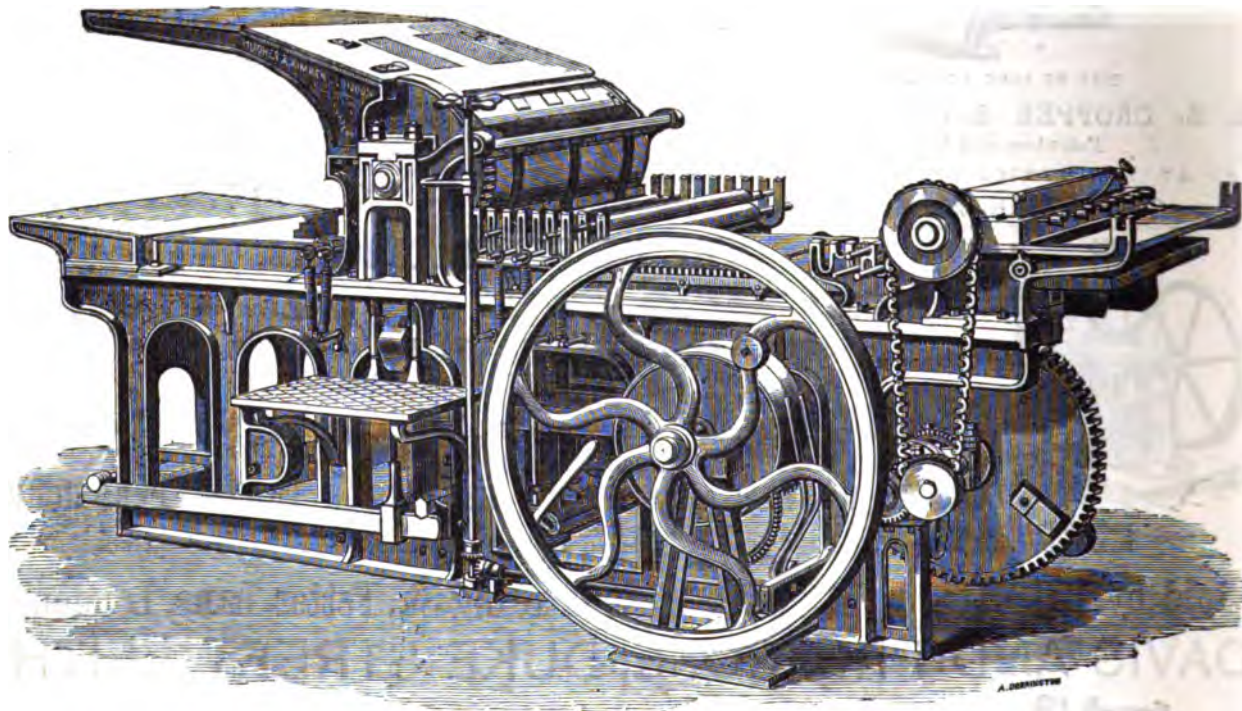


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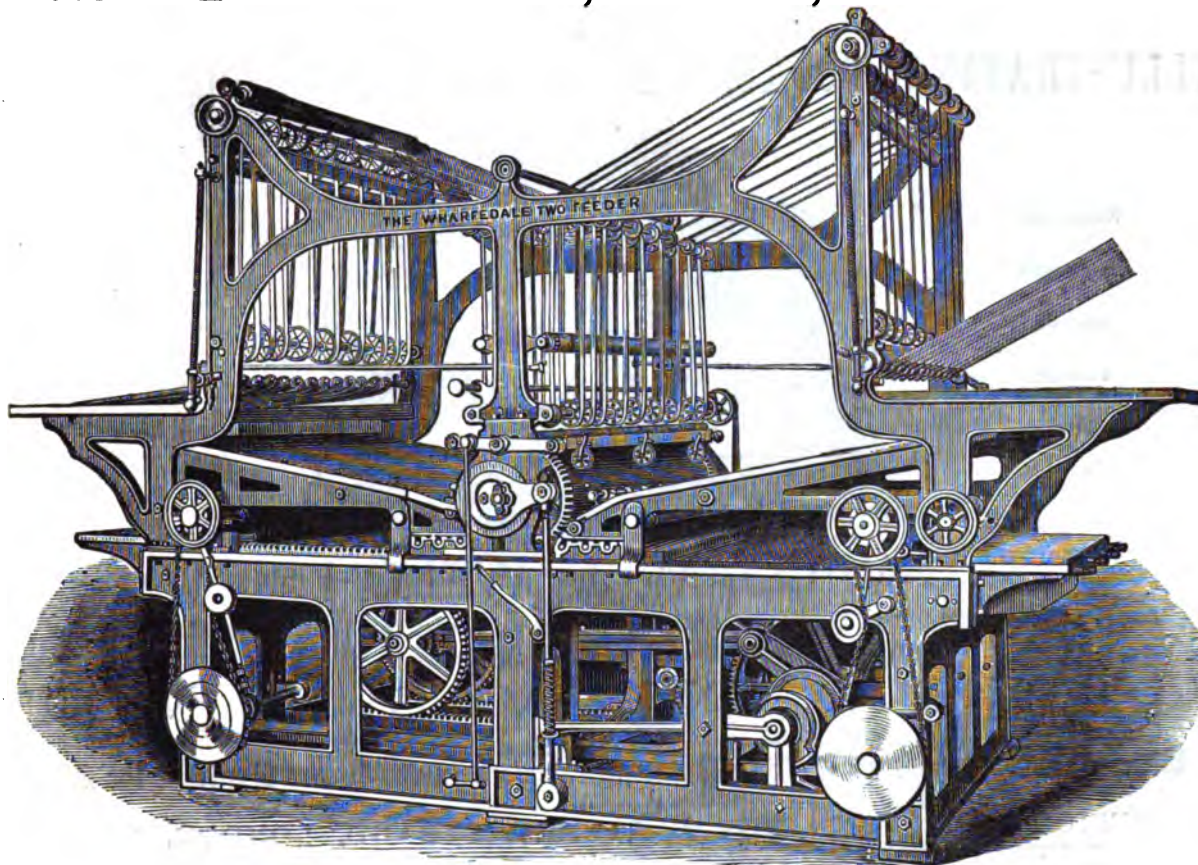
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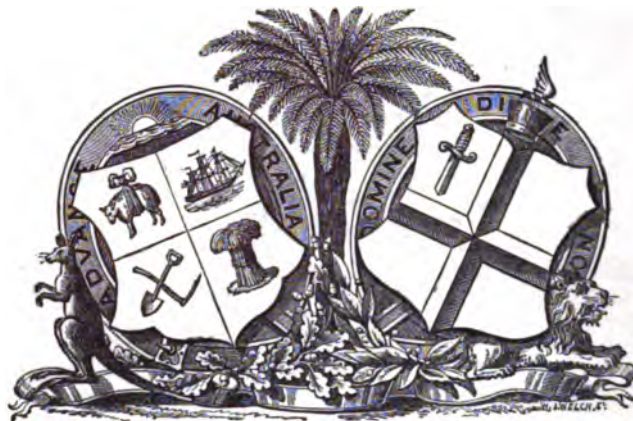
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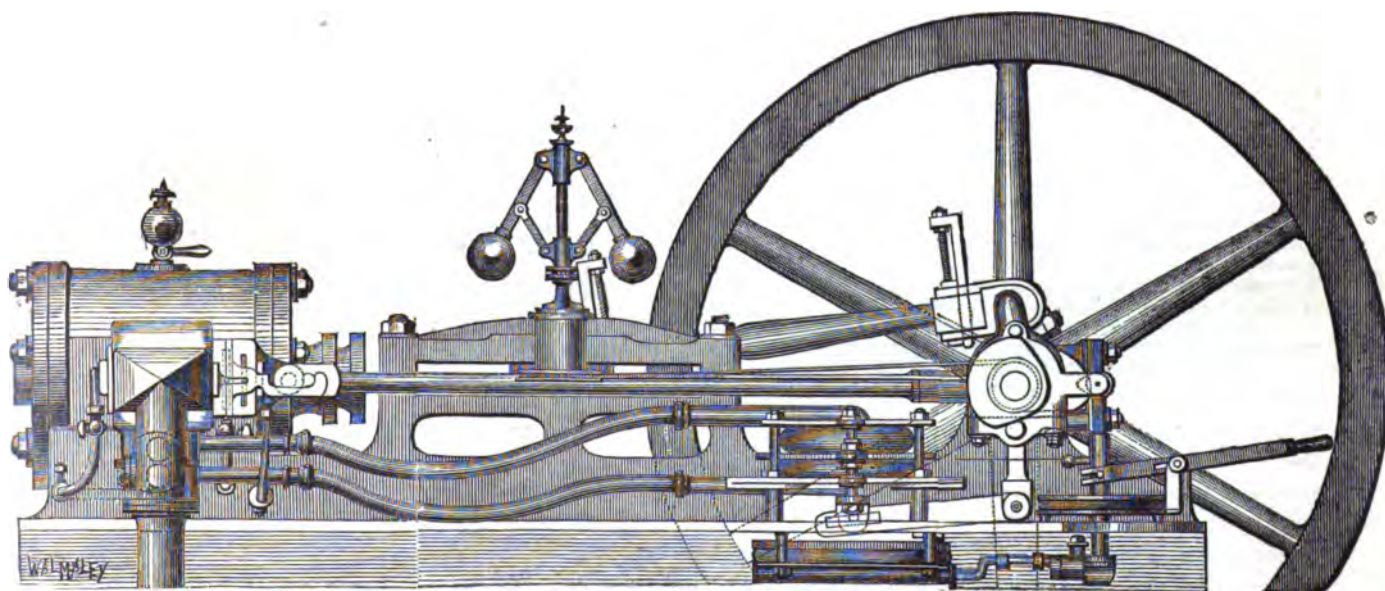
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E. W. ALLEN, Publisher, 11, Ave Maria-lane, E.C.

We deeply regret to see that a paper which has earned for itself so highly honourable a position as the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* enjoys, has by one momentary indiscretion brought upon itself the fullest vengeance of the libel law. We cannot say that the application to the Court of Queen's Bench, which we report under the head of "Law Intelligence," is a vindictive step. We readily grant that it is forced upon the noble prosecutor, for the libel was foul, atrocious, outrageous; but the frank, manly and honourable declaration and explanation made by the editor will, we trust, be taken in the absence of the slightest presumption of malice as ample apology and reparation. How well can newspaper editors testify to the truth of his words—how little can the general public of readers realise it:—

"There is no perfect editor of a daily newspaper. All the existing editors are mortal, and being so, they are often made sensible of their imperfections. Our ideal of a complete editor is a high one. The work of a daily newspaper never stops. Always beginning, never ending, various in kind, it is of necessity classified in departments, and carried on night and day by relays of hands. The editor-in-chief is like the commander of a large ship. He ought always to be at the wheel, he ought never to sleep a wink, he ought never to be found so much as nodding, and he ought to be in all parts of the ship at the same moment. It is not allowable for him to be sick, or jaded, or mentally absorbed in the subject on which he is writing, for to him, awake or asleep, present or absent, hale or invalided, shall all the fruits of want of zeal or of over-zeal—all sins of omission or commission—be attributed. His position is one of great responsibility, and the law ever jealous, and rightly jealous, of the power of the Press, holds him responsible for his subordinates. For these reasons he ought to have the constitution of a steam engine, the eyes of Argus, and the power to be like the Irish baronet's bird, in two or more places at once. He ought also to be able to impress upon his assistants his own wariness of mind, and to endow them, at sight, with all the coolness and the caution which he has acquired by long experience in the management of a daily journal. Failing the possession of these merits, he is liable at any time to find himself placed in an unpleasant light before the public, and this is the position in which we are placed."

Those who know the consistent honesty of Mr. Leng will sympathise with him, when in characteristic terms, and in a tone of bitter regret, due to the sufferers by the libel, and honourable to himself, he says:—

"We regret this matter, not merely on account of the fair fame of the complainants, but on account of our own good name. For eleven years have we been in charge of the literary department of leading journals. The position was not sought by us in the first instance, but was pressed upon us as one for which we had by nature a vocation. During those eleven years we have written some miles of leading articles—literally miles—and have never once been defendant in an action for libel. Loyal to the institutions of the country, devoted to the throne, respectful to the aristocracy, not given to the disparagement of ancient and honoured families, we personally have really had as little to do with the particular scandal for which we are called to account as Montgomery's monument or as Earl Sefton's self. The public may sometimes think the Press eager for defamatory gossip; but, if they do, they are wrong. The instinct of self-preservation, as well as the instinct of honour, has made the Press of England the most scrupulous in the whole world. Our readers see only what we admit. Could they see the mass of what we reject and keep out they would appreciate more highly than they do the combined vigilance and firmness with which we refuse the communications of all who, under the guise of a zeal for public interests, seek to make our columns the

means of airing idle gossip or indulging personal feeling. Experience has given us some small skill in diagnosing motives, as motives underlie the lines in the letters addressed to us, and if the world did but know of the number of abusive and insulting notes we receive because of our refusal to lend our columns to persons who seek, under the most plausible pretences, to use them for the ventilation of private grudges, the world would understand more clearly than it does how delicate, how difficult, and how onerous is the position of the conductor of a leading journal."

Whether Mr. Leng will have to suffer for the inadvertency of a too zealous substitute in his forced absence from the helm, caused by illness arising from over attention to his arduous duties, still rests mainly with the Earl of Sefton, whose honour (outraged as it was by the scandalous libel, which the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* was not the first paper to circulate, but the first to identify with his name), has been, we may hope, sufficiently cleared of any stain, by the thorough and highly satisfactory declaration of the defendant.

That the Earl and Countess of Sefton, and a few higher personages, have suffered a cruel wrong, cannot be denied; but, after the most complete retraction that could be given, what more is to be gained by a prosecution of the case? We have had more than enough of such tittle tattle lately, and we trust this will be the end of it, without recourse to a public trial, which only whets the public appetite for private scandal.

To recur at a short interval to a subject on which we have expressed a decided opinion is very much against our taste. It generally savours of a weakness of conviction on one's own part,—an uncertainty as to the force one has given to his expression of opinion,—or an awakened and positive doubt as to its soundness. But, if we return to the subject on which we touched in our February issue, we must be absolved from any of these suspicions; we only reopen the question to the extent that counsel do when they call upon their witnesses.

A highly influential correspondent, belonging to the Liberal Press, directs our attention to an article which appeared in the *Western Daily Mercury* of March 7th, fully corroborating the remarks we made on the cold shoulder which the Conservative leaders give their most gifted writers in the "Fourth Estate." That the subject should have been urged upon our attention by a Liberal writer of prominent position, shows that there is not only a laudable *esprit de corps*, but a spirit above party in the higher walks of journalism, which can recognise the value of intellectual combat. We have but a mean opinion of men or journals which profess themselves "strictly neutral;" but with regard to the Press, unless the position of the journal is sufficient to enable it to employ real talent in the exposition of political views on either side, it were perhaps better that it remained modestly neutral. But it cannot be good for either of the constitutional parties, or for the nation at large, that party advocacy should be entirely thrown upon individual shoulders, or abandoned by either section of the leading local Press. We speak not as partisans but as Press men—we should despise ourselves if we did not entertain any personal predilections, but, if we have inadvertently allowed them to escape us, we have betrayed the higher interest which we are proud to represent. We believe—or our contemporaries tell us—that we have preserved a fair impartiality in these columns; and, if Conservative writers have acknowledged with thanks the reproof we felt called upon—in the interests of talented men whose profession is journalism—to give to the Conservative leaders, we are this month instigated by a leading Liberal writer, speaking out frankly and fairly in the same general interests, but as a representative of the leading Liberal journalists, who are quite willing to meet foemen worthy of their steel.

This gentleman points our attention to the struggles of Conservative journalism in the west of England—in counties by no means conspicuous for advanced Liberal opinions; but the history gives examples of the slow perception of the value and of the inadequate idea of the power of the Press shown by the higher class of Conservatives. If their apathy arise from any self conviction of the truth or strength of their cause, we warn them that *no cause—no principle—can in this age be*

sustained without the aid of the Press. All west of England men are not of the trusting faith of a Wescombe—nor will they repeat the chivalrous example of placing wealth and health at the disposal of an ingrate and unappreciative party. The particulars to which our attention is called might be printed as a "History of Conservative Journalism in Plymouth and the West of Devon," but may more aptly be adopted as illustrations of the indifference of a great party to the engine, without whose aid they cannot possibly advance, but must irretrievably go back.

During the past quarter of a century, there have been several unsuccessful attempts to establish newspapers in Plymouth and its neighbourhood. It seems strange that, though the existence of Conservatism manifests itself in the county representation, the Conservative Press should have been so badly supported.

Of the most memorable of these papers was the *West of England Conservative*, "which was for many years conducted with very great ability by the late FREDERICK CARRINGTON, who subsequently removed from these parts into a more successful field of labour in Gloucestershire, where he died mourned and lamented, but he left the *Conservative* in the care of some gentlemen who spent a great deal of money upon it before it succumbed."

A little later the *Plymouth Mail* was started. "It was published at one time twice, and at another thrice, a week. It was conducted with very great ability by Mr. MORTIMER COLLINS, and if ability would have saved a paper, it ought to have been a success; but in due time the *Mail* collapsed, and the Three Towns were without a Conservative organ. Several fresh attempts were made, the Conservatives of Devonport having started a subscription for the establishment of a newspaper, and seeking aid of the Conservatives of Plymouth, but when the two bodies came together the attempt at amalgamation and united action failed, and the scheme was dropped for some time. Again, on Mr. LANE's coming down to Plymouth, party feeling assumed a stronger aspect, and the general election excited the Conservatives to renewed action. Meetings were held and subscriptions entered into, by which the Conservatives were enabled to obtain the type and plant necessary for the printing and conduct of a daily paper, and the first attempt in this direction was made by the suppression of the old *Plymouth Herald*, and turning it into the *Western Counties Daily Herald*."

This paper lasted but a very short time, and on March 2nd, 1869, the *Western Daily Standard* appeared. It has just "suspended," and there are grave doubts whether the promise of its revival will be realised. Under the proprietorship of Mr. LUKE and the management of Mr. HICKLIN it was very respectably conducted, but it was not successful, and a proposal has been issued to form a limited liability company, of 300 shares at £10 each, for the purchase of the plant and the conduct of the paper. The capital seems ridiculously small for a daily paper, but it is stated that 120 shares are taken up.

In Devonshire there are 34 newspapers published, and out of those there are now only three newspapers that represent Conservative principles, viz., the *Exeter Gazette* and its *Daily Telegram*, which in order to be correct we count as two, and the old *Exeter Flying Post*.

There have been two *Standards* previously to the one just defunct, one of which, the *West Devon Standard*, started by Mr. Jenkin Thomas, of Plymouth, in the exciting times of the Free Trade agitation, only ran forty weeks. The *Plymouth Times* had a longer existence, but at last dropped for want of patronage.

In the neighbouring county of Cornwall there is only one Conservative paper—a weekly—out of 14. That paper was established in the year 1801, and is we believe fairly supported.

Visitors to Conservative country houses will endorse our assertion that the local party paper is but seldom seen in them. The host may be an ardent politician, who goes up to the poll for the man of his colours most promptly whenever an election occurs—the ladies of the household, probably, doing a little canvassing in the cause—but he is satisfied with "calling in at the reading-room," when his duties as a magistrate or master of hounds take him to the town, to see the local paper, forgetting that this is no support at all. If asked, he will tell you he has to take such a lot of papers; he must have his *Times*, *Illustrated London News*, *Field*, *Athenaeum*, and *Punch*, but he does not seem to

recognise it as a political *duty* to give help to the paper which can, if supported, sow the seeds of his party broadcast.

All the leading papers throughout the kingdom have been brought to the fore, not so much by their own respectability as by the talent they displayed in combating some worthy antagonist on the other side. The Liberals have always recognised and applauded these intellectual tournaments, and they will have a real cause for complaint if the leaders on the other side leave the field to be contested by knights whose chivalry is undeniable, but over whom a victory will always be attributed to the want of that confidence which the party, of which they are the champions, ought honestly to accord to them.

If the Conservative party choose to continue their disregard of Press power, they will merit their inevitable fate—the Liberals will have a fair laugh at them—and the world will have no sympathy with "The Lost Cause." To the credit, be it said, of the party of progress, they early discovered the value of the great engine of political warfare, which prevents "the stern necessity of revolution."

THE PRESS AND THE POST OFFICE.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer has fulfilled the promise made to Mr. Graves, the member for Liverpool, with respect to the granting of further postal facilities to newspapers. His proposals, which passed the House of Commons on the 26th of April, may be briefly stated to frank every newspaper weighing less than six ounces once through the post for one halfpenny. The *Times*, in announcing this part of the budget, embodied also the announcement that when this came into operation, and the date is now fixed for the first of October, that the *Times* will be posted to country subscribers for the same price that is now charged for unstamped copies. This is the first direct boon to the public that has yet been announced in connection with the improved postal facilities, but doubtless there will be others ere we reach October. From a correspondence which has been published in the *Echo*, it is obvious that the postal authorities have not very fully considered the bearings of the subject, and in consequence have resolved to place all newspapers on precisely the same footing, regardless of either size or price. The public will have no cause to grumble at this regulation, particularly as two or more of the smaller sized journals, if they weigh less than two ounces, can be sent for the same small sum. At present, all that the newspaper is asked to give up in return for this is the privilege of retransmission, which is now conferred by the impressed stamp.

At the first glance, old journalists said this was all that could be wished or asked for; and, indeed, there does not appear to have been a shadow of opposition to the scheme; but there has been manifested a conservative feeling in favour of retaining the impressed stamp. This feeling found expression through the Provincial Newspaper Society, and it was proposed to interview the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the subject. Whether it was that Mr. Lowe was busy, or that really the details belonged to the Post-office, the deputation was referred to the Postmaster-General, who received the gentlemen in favour of the impressed stamp on Wednesday, the 26th of April.

The readers of the NEWSPAPER PRESS are familiar with the question, and here the opinion previously expressed may be reiterated, that whilst it is desirable to retain a register of the stamped issue of certain journals, that result can be obtained by specially stamped franks as well as by the ordinary red stamp, with which we are familiar. This plan, which is most convenient, just, and answers every possible purpose, was urged upon the Postmaster. The deputation consisted of Mr. Naylor (*Cambridge Chronicle*), president of the society, Mr. Glover (*Leamington Courier*), Mr. Harper (*Huddersfield Chronicle*), and Mr. Heard, of Truro. Mr. Naylor (the president) introduced the subject of the halfpenny stamp, and explained the desirability of retaining the impressed stamp, without, however, the right of retransmission, as a means of facilitating the business both of the postmasters and the publishers of newspapers, especially in the rural districts. Other members of the deputation made observations to the same effect; and the Postmaster-General, having

thanked the deputation generally for their several valuable suggestions, intimated that there was no desire on the part of his department to curtail in any way the privileges hitherto accorded to provincial newspaper proprietors. As a matter of detail, it may be mentioned that it was proposed to print the date of the paper across the impressed stamp, and so deface it. This argument appeared to have great weight with the postal authorities, as it would of course save them trouble on the delivery of the papers.

BOURGEOIS.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

NO. XVII.—NON-PRIVILEGED REPORTS OF PUBLIC MEETINGS.

As the existing law relating to reports of proceedings at public meetings is not, it seems, likely to undergo any alteration during the present session, and any proposed alteration may probably stand over indefinitely, we purpose introducing in this series of judicial decisions in libel actions, the cases that have occurred in modern times, arising out of such reports. We had hoped that any notice of them in these columns would long ago have been superseded by legislative enactment, as proposed, in accordance with the claims of the Press and the interests of the public.

The first case was that of "*Davison v. Duncan*," in 1857—argued in the Court of Queen's Bench upon a demurrer to the defendants' principal plea. The action was for a libel published on the 10th October, 1856, in the *Durham County Advertiser*, of which the defendants, Messrs. Duncan, were, at that time, proprietors. The article complained of as libellous, was contained in a report of the proceedings at a meeting at West Hartlepool of the improvement commissioners of that town, constituted under an act passed in 1854 for the local government of the place. The libel imputed to the plaintiff, a solicitor at Durham, and provincial secretary of the bishop of the diocese, that he had, by fraud, procured from the bishop, on the part of a clergyman named Burgess, a license to the chaplaincy of the cemetery. The specific statements set out in the declaration as being libellous, were made by the chairman of the commissioners' meeting, and by other commissioners, to the following effect:—The license, the chairman said, appeared to him to be a clumsy device on the part of Mr. Davison, to give Mr. Burgess a legal status in the cemetery; for the bishop had openly disavowed any such license, and had authorised such disavowal to be communicated to the board that day. A commissioner said it would appear that the whole proceeding had been a fraud upon the bishop, as well as upon the public. Another commissioner said:—"I think such a proceeding a great scandal upon the Church." Mr. Ridley said: "I don't see that. It is, in my opinion, merely a scandal upon Mr. Davison, the late bishop's secretary. The Church has nothing to do with it."

The defendants pleaded, first, "Not guilty," and next, a plea of justification, alleging the truth of the matters published. They pleaded, also—and this was the plea which raised the important question of law—that the statements contained in the libel were made at a public meeting of the improvement commissioners; that those statements were correctly reported in the defendants' newspaper, and that such report was published *bona fide*, and without malice. To this plea, the plaintiff demurred, as being insufficient in law, and no answer to the action. Thus the main question was raised—whether reports of proceedings at public meetings, where defamatory matter, affecting the character of individuals, was spoken, could be lawfully published?

The question came on to be argued on the 23rd January, 1857. The defendants' counsel, in support of the plea, called the attention of the court to the fact that many towns throughout the country were governed by acts of parliament—improvement acts—similar to the act under which the West Hartlepool improvement commissioners had been constituted; and he observed that as the powers given by such acts were most extensive, it was important that what passed at meetings held under those acts should be made known to the public through the newspapers. Was it, he asked, possible to say that newspaper reports of the proceedings of such bodies as these improvement com-

missioners, were not as important to the inhabitants of all the large towns in the kingdom as those of the proceedings in our courts of justice? and was it not, in fact, for the public benefit that such reports should be protected?

The court, however, observed that the privilege of reporting the proceedings of courts of justice had never been extended to reports of public meetings, and could not be so extended without some legislative enactment for the purpose. This opinion was expressed emphatically by Lord Campbell, then Lord Chief Justice of England. The other judges concurred; and Mr. Justice Coleridge added:—"I think there is no difference between the publication of a libel in a newspaper, and one by a private individual. In neither case is there any duty cast upon the party to make the publication, and if he publishes that which reflects upon any individual, he must, to protect himself, bring the publication within some acknowledged legal principle. No case has been cited, nor any principle shown to have been laid down, which carries it to the extent of saying that statements made at public meetings, or meetings of official persons, however prejudicial such statements may be to the character of individuals, become public property, and that any one is at liberty to publish such statements. The principle of the privilege contended for is, I apprehend, that any possible injury to individuals by such published statements, is very small as compared with the good conferred upon the public at large by the publication; but the privilege could never have been meant to include such a publication as the present."

The decision of the court, as above, upon the question of law, disposed of the issue arising under the third plea; and the case went down to the Assizes at Durham, in the spring of 1857, upon the other issues—one of them arising under the plea of justification; but it appearing, at the trial, that the circumstances under which the license to the chaplaincy of the cemetery had been procured from the bishop, had been misunderstood, and that there was, in fact, no ground for the imputation against the plaintiff, the plea of justification was abandoned, and the case went to the jury upon the one remaining issue—that of "Not guilty." It was contended by the defendants' counsel, Mr. Hugh Hill (afterwards Mr. Justice Hill), that it was the duty of journalists to report the proceedings of responsible public bodies—especially of public bodies having the local government of any town or district, including the power of local taxation. The Press ought not to shrink from giving such reports, although they might contain reflections upon individuals. Adverting to these observations, however, Mr. Justice Crompton said the Press were under no obligation to the public to give such reports. Journalists were in no position different from that of any private individual. They performed functions most useful to the public, but they were, at the same time, liable, as any other individual would be, who chose to circulate printed or written statements containing defamatory matter affecting character.

A verdict was found for the plaintiff, with one farthing damages. The jury found, also, that the report in question was a true and correct report of the proceedings at the improvement commissioners' meeting, and was published without malice. The plaintiff's counsel applied to Mr. Justice Crompton for a certificate to entitle the plaintiff to his costs—the damages being of nominal amount—but the application was refused.

It will be seen, from the foregoing detail, that the statements complained of, and in respect of which the action was brought, were those of the improvement commissioners themselves—official personages created under the provisions of the act. They were the persons uttering the defamatory matter affecting the plaintiff's character, and yet the plaintiff found he could not make them legally responsible for their statements, and that his only remedy was against the newspaper proprietors. This is one of the class of cases on which the proposed amendment of the law for shifting the responsibility from the publisher to the speaker has been founded. But the measure, "to save itself from slaughter," will not make its appearance this session.

MR. LLOYD, one of the victims of the Greek Brigands, was the author of the letters from Athens which have appeared in the *Standard* for the past six months.

THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PRESS.

VI.—THE REPORTER.

"THE NEWSPAPER," Thackeray tells us, "has her ambassadors in every quarter of the world—her couriers are upon every road. Her officers march along with armies, and her envoys walk into statesmen's cabinets. They are ubiquitous. Yonder journal has an agent this minute giving bribes at Madrid; and another inspecting the price of potatoes at Covent Garden. There is no aim too high, no object too low for them. From the inmost recesses of the forbidden and unknown domain of the sanctum sanctorum there issues forth a mandate, and see how quickly it is obeyed. It may be but a wish—the fluttering of a half formed thought—or it may be the decision of years. The Prospero of this Enchanted Chamber finds a score of Ariels ready to do his bidding. It may be to chronicle the convulsion of empires, or to record a parochial squabble concerning the band of a beadle's hat. It may be to take down with winged words the eloquent harangue and flashing thoughts of the statesman, or the profound reflections of the philosopher, or by that one step which lies between the height of sublimity and the ridiculous, it may be to falteringly and humbly notice the monstrous gooseberry or the gigantic mushroom, which grow so opportunely in the dull season. Fires, suicides, congresses, concerts, battles, murders, or sudden death may be the topic. Nothing is too vast for their grasp, nothing too small to be beneath their notice. They are the living historians of the age—the Tacitus of the present era—the Zenophon of to-day. The sweep of a comet through a million worlds is placed on record equally with the breaking of a work-house window by a refractory pauper. The triumphs of science, the struggles of philosophy, the aspirations of the poet, the dreams of philanthropy find willing pens to scatter their truths and works throughout the earth, to emblazon their deeds, or to condemn their shortcomings.

The men who do this live a strange life. It was only the other day that one of them exclaimed, "If you are attached to a daily newspaper, there is no knowing from whence your effusions may be dated. They may hail from the catacombs, from the city of Jerusalem, from the interior of a Zingari's tent in the land of the crescent and the stars; from a Sheikh's goatkin home, from under a palm tree in the Great Sahara, from the Devil's Cave in the island of Jersey, from a trench on a battle ground,—from, in short, anywhere you can imagine. One day you may find a note on your table from the editor of the *Moonbeam* requiring you to attend a *fête* at the Cream of Tartary Gardens; another night a debate on the Irish Church calls you into the reporter's gallery of Parliament; while the ink is not yet dry that summons you to Her Majesty's Theatre to criticise the new opera, or to Horse-monger-lane Gaol to witness the private execution of a murderer. Coming further home, you are hardly less at your ease. You may be sent to a dog show, a prize-fight in the Birmingham ring, a floral exhibition in a damp marquee on a rainy day, a musical festival at a church, a tea-meeting at conventicle, or you may find yourself on a June night, 'when the sun is red,' in a gipsy's tent, with a black-eyed, swarthy-hued gitans for your *vis-à-vis*, and the chief of the tribe for your cicerone," yet, notwithstanding this diversity of employments, reporters are only divided into two or three great classes between the special correspondent on the one hand, and the humble local correspondent on the other. It is strange how extremes meet in a newspaper column. There every one can find an utterance. The gallery reporter finds himself side by side with the humble penny a liner, the diffident individual who ventures to address the editor on the first appearance of the nightingale, or the flashing of a brilliant meteor across his path.

It is but a little more than a century since the reporter came into existence, and the earlier efforts of reporters carries us back to the time when Dr. Johnson gave the world the Lilliput debates and Memory Woodfall became the pioneer of the reporting era, which started into existence when Perry, of the *Morning Chronicle*, divided the labour of reporting a debate and assigned to each reporter a separate task. The newspaper then came into existence. Newsletters were no more. The reporter became an institution of the country, and remains so still. He

is the medium between the governors and the governed. He represents the public, and the public look to him for a faithful account of what he hears, what he sees, and what he knows. A graceful reticence is not classed amongst a reporter's virtues—nor is a verbose garrulity to be desired. The true bred reporter takes the happy medium—he gives the wise man's words, and clips only the fool's folly.

The duties which devolve on a reporter are so various, that to fill them all he should combine the graces of an Admirable Crichton with the versatility of a walking cyclopaedia. The whole of the arts and sciences he must have at his fingers' ends. An odd quotation or two in Sanscrit, must not startle him. He must discriminate between the merits of the various schools of painting, and be critical between Phidias, Chantrey, and Westmacott. At a musical reunion he must be able to pronounce Hadyn and Mozart slow, praise the liveliness of Offenbach, the sweetness of Schubert, the wildness of Mendelssohn, denounce the unfinished ruggedness of Wagner, or sneer at Gounod. On an ancient camp or battle field he should be able to point out the balium and vallum, or the earthworks which protected the left flank, or covered the centre of the defenders' line. In architecture he should know not only the relative merits of the Palladian and Gothic, but should be able at a glance to point out the masonry of the Saxons, the Norman moulding, the lancet window of the Early English, and lament the debased styles of Gothic which came in with the Tudors. As for the mode of handling armies or manœuvring a fleet, the reporter is required to be *à fait*, and to speak on the subject with the precision of a tactician. To praise Shakespeare and extol Milton will be found easy, but he is expected to remember an obscure quotation from a fourth rate poet, who perhaps was unknown, save amongst the readers of the "Poet's Corner" in the county newspaper, and whose works were published by charitable subscription. These are amongst the duties of a general reporter, and the trained man of intelligence and ability generally acquits himself fairly.

Of course the reporter, besides being acquainted with half-a-dozen languages, writes some system of shorthand, and now that Pitman's phonography is superseding all others, except in the office of Messrs. Gurney, he will be able to take down the most rapid speaker, adding all the classical quotations that may be used, mending all the broken sentences, and patching up all the bad grammar. The lecturer who delivers a discourse some two hours long expects to find a brilliant summary in the paper, cleverly condensed down to a column, whilst the common council man, or member of the local board, hopes to see his rapid nonsense reported at full length. Indeed, this fashion of verbatim reporting country twaddle was a much greater nuisance than at present is the case. The strain upon the attention and versatility is indeed great, and those who are apt to sneer at an awkward sentence should endeavour to place themselves in a reporter's position for a short time; for the reporting office, taken in a broad sense, is a most responsible one. The reporter, even on a small country paper, is often placed in a very critical position, where much depends on his judgment. He is not always sure that his copy will be subject to editorial supervision, or he may know that it will not be the case, yet the happiness of a family, or the credit of his journal, may depend on his giving currency to idle gossip, the concoctions of a malevolent brain, or the fervid eloquence of some rural Demosthenes, who demands to be fully reported even while vituperating his fellow townsmen, heedless alike of his own reputation or the law of libel. The wonder is, that the duties of the office are filled so often with credit, wit, sagacity, and success.

Here we have been only able to indicate the reporting genus broadly, and with a rough outline. The separate specimens will require a special chapter, from the gallery aristocrat to the toiling and anxious local correspondent.

THE goodwill, type, and plant of the *Carlisle Express* was offered for sale by public auction at the Bush Hotel, Carlisle, recently, and was purchased by Messrs. Steel, of the *Carlisle Journal*, for £1,020. The same gentlemen, having purchased the *Carlisle Examiner*, announce that in future the two papers will be united under the title of the *Carlisle Express and Examiner*, and will be published at one penny every Saturday morning.

REVIEW.

The News List and Index of Daily and Periodical Publications and Magazines. London: H. Williams, 17, Warwick Lane.

THIS publication has appeared daily since the commencement of the present year. Its *raison d'être*, or, as Colley Cibber would put it in plainer terms, "Apology for my Life," is thus concisely given:—

"The multiplicity of journals and periodical publications is such that it is beyond the capacity of any individual to make himself readily acquainted with that which is produced; while even the search for special information has become not only inconvenient, but wasteful of time. The object of *The News List and Index* is sufficiently plain and intelligible; the title needs no explanation. That it will be serviceable alike to men of business and men of letters is obvious; to the general public it will be a constant guide, and a concise but valuable record."

It would doubtless be more useful—in the positive sense it is useful—if it were more systematically arranged. It is not an "Index," alphabetical or otherwise, but a collection of the "Contents" of various journals. *Par exemple*, selecting at random, let us take No. 71 for "Thursday, March 24th." We find therein the contents of the *Photographic News* of the 18th, *Notes and Queries*, *Herapath's Journal*, the "Freemason's Magazine," the *Queen*, the *City Press*, the *Courier*, the *Anglo-American Times*, the *Army and Navy Gazette*, the *Volunteer Service Gazette*, the *Civil Service Gazette*, the *Railway News*, the *Bullionist*, all of the 19th, and *Bell's Weekly Messenger* of the 21st, the latest date given, higgledy-piggledy—to use a very homely phrase—on the first two pages. Then follow all the evening papers of the day before on the third page. The *Times*, *Standard*, *Daily News*, *Morning Post*, *Pall Mall Gazette*, *Daily Telegraph*, and *Morning Advertiser* of the same morning follow, with an exemplary regard to system—but then come "the ruck," *Medical Times* (19th), *Jewish Chronicle* (18th), *Lancet* (19th), *Land and Water* (19th), *Punch* (26th), *Fun* (20th), *Judy* (23rd), *Tomahawk* (26th), *Will o' the Wisp* (20th), *Penny Illustrated Paper* (19th), *Bell's Life* (23rd), *Sportman* (19th), *Ditto* (23rd), *Law Journal* (18th), *Guardian*, *Nonconformist*, *Record* and *Watchman* (all of the 23rd), *Tablet* (19th), "Mechanics' Magazine" (18th), and *Era* (20th).

Surely some better arrangement, either alphabetical or chronological, might be devised which would steer clear of this glorious confusion.

The contents are useful so far as they go, as indicating the principal articles in each paper; but they afford no clue to matters of perhaps greater importance generalised under the heads of "Foreign News," "Colonial News," "Home News," and "Paragraphs." These might be more fully specified if space in other directions were economised. For instance, the column devoted to the comic papers might be turned to better purpose—the headings convey no idea of the subject, and it is waste of space to give them. Under the heads of "Correspondence," or "Letters to the Editor," too, it is perfectly unnecessary to give the signatures, real or assumed, as "Morris," "Alpha," "Newman," "General Reader," "Actuary," &c., in the references to the *Times* in the number under review.

The idea which inspired this attempt is a good one, but the carrying out of it is susceptible of immense improvement. Imperfect as it is, however, it is still so useful as to make us wish more pains were bestowed on it.

[Want of space compels us to postpone our second notice of *Maverick's "Life of Raymond"* till next month.]

INDIVIDUALISM IN THE PRESS.

(From the *Spectator*.)

JOURNALISTS have, in fact, become powerful, without becoming so individualised to the world that they are compelled also to be themselves. They have become powerful, too, in a way which makes them feel like ministers, and burdens them with all those reticences which are the intellectual curse of ministers who have to exercise power through parliamentary forms, those habits of producing not the true argument but the popular argument which begin to mark the House of Commons, and which made, to take one example only, the debate in the Lords on the

Coercion Bill so much more readable, because so much more honest, than the debate in the Commons. Official information, too, has become indefinitely more valuable. We frankly confess we do not know why this is, why newspapers have ceased so much to depend on themselves for the collection of facts; but we believe that it is due partly to greater interest in the proceedings of the government as compared with the proceedings of the public—government having acquired a real leadership—partly to the increased power of journalism, which tempts the leaders on both sides to insist on stricter discipline, and partly to the accidents of the hour, but the fact remains. The papers are as decorous, as detailed, and as dull as the politicians. A leader beginning with Brougham's famous sentence, "The Queen has done it all," would be rejected with horror, a hint that a cabinet is divided is regarded as treason, and as for an individual or "crotchety" or popular view of any given topic, say, for example, the Press Restriction Law, upon which there is some fierce difference of opinion, it can barely get itself uttered in an undertone of querulousness. Ideas, popular and otherwise, get expressed in the weekly journals, but in the daily papers, that is, in the real Press as popularly understood, they have no more chance than they have in the House of Commons. We are not taking the smallest credit to ourselves for the difference, which results in a great degree from the absence of temptation. The *Saturday Review*, the *Spectator*, the *Examiner*, and the like, do not want news, do not care for what are called "close relations," and are aware that their constituencies will pretty much let them say what they like, provided they say it well. But we de lament, as a distinct, an increasing, and a serious evil, the want of "burr" and "go" and force, of individualism and intellectual eccentricity, in the Metropolitan Press. It is not only a bore to have everybody saying the same things, it is an evil; for the apparent unanimity is not real, and covers up and intensifies popular dislikes which, so suppressed, burst out in the end like intellectual nitroglycerine.

THE ORIGIN OF "THE CENTRAL PRESS."

(From the *Printer's Register*.)

IN 1863, the proprietors of the *Western Morning News*, feeling the difficulty of dealing satisfactorily with general news 250 miles from London, opened a London office, at which this news was edited, composed, and stereotyped, and sent down every night by express train. Of course, it was necessary that other papers should co-operate; and in this way the "Central Press" was established. It has now become a very large organisation, with clients in all parts of the United Kingdom and of the Continent, and is conducted by Mr. William Saunders. This combination of journals enabled the proprietors of the *Western Morning News* to obtain intelligence which could not have been obtained by any one of them singly. In many instances, the journals associated with the "Central Press" anticipated the London journals in important metropolitan and foreign news. At the time that the "Central Press" was started (in January, 1863), the *Western Morning News* was enlarged to its present size. In 1866, the proprietors, being desirous of giving the chiefs of the various departments some interest in the prosperity of the paper, by way of acknowledging their services, converted their undertaking into a company, under the Act of 1862. This change was made at a time when the profits of the business were very large; but the valuable principle of partnerships of industry, which was adopted in a modified form, led to an increase in those profits, and the shareholders of the company have received large dividends, besides putting by a substantial reserve fund.

THE HALFPENNY STAMP FOR NEWSPAPERS.—In consideration of the valuable concession to the daily papers, in the shape of the halfpenny stamp for printed matter, the *Spectator* asks the Postmaster General to do a good turn next for the weeklies, by abolishing the useless rule which forbids a stamped newspaper to be sent by post to any house within three miles of the General Post Office. The rule produces no revenue and has no visible meaning, and is an intolerable nuisance to the newspaper offices, and, in fact, has not a leg to stand upon.

NEWSVENDERS' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE anniversary festival held in behalf of the funds of this charity was celebrated on the 5th ult. at the Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of Mr. Charles Dickens, who was supported right and left by Sir Joseph Causton, alderman and sheriff, Mr. Sheriff Paterson, Sir C. W. Dilke, M.P., Mr. Alderman Cotton, Messrs. C. L. Gruneisen, J. Neale, Tom Hood, R. J. Wood, Edward Levy, E. Dicey, E. Yates, C. Dickens, jun., E. Croaley, T. Reid, F. Goodlake, C. V. Boys, Under-Sheriff Croaley, F. Ledger, R. Broadwater, W. Kershaw, W. Lethbridge, &c.

At the conclusion of the dinner, grace having been sung, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were proposed and duly honoured.

The chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, said:—

It is an appropriate instance of the newsmen's calling that no toast we have drunk to-night, no toast we shall drink to-night, and no toast that we might, could, should, or would drink to-night, is separable for a moment from that great inclusion of all possible subjects of human interest which he delivers at our doors every day (hear, hear). Further, it may be worthy the consideration of everybody here who has talked cheerfully to his or her neighbour since we have sat down to table—what in the name of Heaven should we have talked about, and how on earth could we possibly have got on if our newsmen had only for one single day forgotten us (hear, hear). Well, now, ladies and gentlemen, as our newsmen is not by any means in the habit of forgetting us, let us try to form a little habit of not forgetting our newsmen (cheers). Let us remember that his work is very arduous, that his labours occupy him early and late, that the profits he derives from us are at the best very small, that the services he renders us are very great, that if he be a master his little capital is exposed to all sorts of mischances, anxieties, and hazards, and that if he be a journeyman he is exposed to all manner of weathers, tempers, habits, and all manner of difficult and unreasonable requirements. In illustration of the peculiar experiences of a newsvender, let me relate to you an anecdote. Some years ago it happened that one stormy night I was kindly escorted from a bleak railway station to a little out-of-the-way town it represented by a sprightly and vivacious newsmen, to whom I propounded this question—"What is the all-absorbing passion of the human soul?" To which he replied, without the slightest hesitation, "That it certainly was the passion for getting your newspaper in advance of your fellow-creatures (laughter); and also, if you only hired it, to get it delivered at your own door at exactly the same moment as another man who hired the same copy, and who lived four miles off; finally, the invincible determination, on the part of both men, not to believe that the time was up when the boy called for it" (laughter). Ladies and gentlemen, I have not had an opportunity of verifying this experience with my friends of the managing committee, but I have no doubt, from its reception by you to-night, that my friend was perfectly right. Well, as a sort of beacon in a sufficiently dark life, and as an assurance that among a little body of working men there is a feeling of brotherhood and sympathy, the News-venders' Provident and Benevolent Institution was established. Under the provident head certain small annuities are granted to old and hardworking subscribers. Under the benevolent head relief is afforded to temporary and proved distress. Under both heads I am bound to say that the help rendered is very humble and very sparing; but if you would like it to be handsomer, you have it in your own power to make it so. Such as it is it is most gratefully received, and does a great deal of good. Such as it is it is most discreetly and feelingly administered, and it is encumbered with no wasteful charges or expenditure. During the last year we have granted about 100*l.* for pensions, and some 70*l.* in temporary relief, and we have invested in government securities some 400*l.* Now, ladies and gentlemen, that the newsvenders' work has greatly increased of late years, and that it is far more wearing and tearing than it used to be, you may infer from the fact stated in "Mitchell's Newspaper Directory," that during the last quarter of a century the number of newspapers published in London have more than doubled, while the increase in the number of people among whom they are disseminated is probably almost beyond calculation. Last year we had the good fortune

to attract the sympathy and support of the American Minister at the British Court, and we include among our donors and vice-presidents the great name of Longfellow. Ladies and gentlemen, in conclusion, I beg to propose to you to drink "Prosperity and Perpetuity to the News-venders' Benevolent Institution."

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, and the secretary subsequently announced a satisfactory list of subscriptions.

The other toasts were, "The Chairman," "The Press," "The Ladies," &c.

Mr. F. F. Toole kindly and gratuitously officiated as toast-master with his usual tact and animation.

SINISTER INFLUENCES IN DRAMATIC CRITICISM.

(From *Charles's Wain*).

THE advertising clerk from the newspaper office applying for more extended advertisements for the journal he represents, is familiar enough at every stage-door. The expense of advertising to a single theatre in London is commonly fifty pounds a week, and is not uncommonly double that sum. There is one daily journal, at least, which does not derive less than 15,000*l.* per annum from its theatrical advertisements alone. It is manifest that facts of this kind must be apt to influence, even unconsciously, the minds of editors and proprietors. We would wish to be understood. We do not mean to say that our papers sell their praises of the stage for mere money. Indeed, the sum derived from any one theatre by a particular journal is often so small as to preclude any idea of that kind. But the fact is, that advertisements are often valuable for other than mere pecuniary reasons. Theatrical advertisements are news of importance, at least to all who go to theatres. To be without them is an indication of weakness: a token that one class at least does not think the paper a journal of any influence. In fact, a morning paper must have them; and managers are for this reason well aware that to threaten to withdraw advertisements—no uncommon thing, by the way—is one of the most potent of all menaces. There is not a daily paper, for instance, which, probably, would not gladly insert the programme—say of the Haymarket or the Gaiety, gratuitously, rather than be without it; but this they dare not do, for, the fact becoming known, no other theatre would be willing to pay in the like case, and thus the important revenue derived from this source would inevitably be imperilled.

The cure for these evils is not very easy to see; but some attempt at reform ought certainly to be made. Perhaps if a complete list of all the performances, similar to that which is published every day immediately above the leading articles in the *Times*, were inserted gratuitously, leaving all the more extensive advertisements to be paid for as before, it would get rid of much that is objectionable; for a paper then need no longer fear lest it should fail to give its readers all necessary information. If, in addition to this, the disgraceful system of writing nightly—by arrangement with managers—orders for the theatres, to be distributed as bribes to general advertisers, were sternly repressed, the mere pecuniary motive for favouritism which would then remain would not, we believe, have any great effect. Allowing a little time for journalists to recover from the laxity engendered by long habit, we might then come to see a really efficient school of dramatic criticism.

"NASTY" REPORTING.—The diurnal appearance in the journals of a foul mass of evidence in the notorious Ledbury scandal case makes us long for the day when the records of the courts shall be presented to us stripped of the unwholesome redundancy which at present is their characteristic. The depositions of the witnesses in this particular case were altogether unfit for perusal. In most respects the evidence was the same as, or similar to, that which was taken before the local justices some time ago; and yet, when the case comes before the Court of Arches, we are again presented with the sickening details. There is a morbid portion of the public which revels in these cases; but, on the other hand, the newspaper of the nineteenth century, lying, as it does, upon the table of every house, is seen and read by our sisters and our wives, and therefore we hope the day is not far distant when our broadsheets shall be published without these ghastly records of crime of the most loathsome order.—*Illustrated Midland News*.

THE FIRST DAYS OF "PUNCH."

MR. GEORGE HODDER, who, under the somewhat ambitious title of "Memories of my Time, including Personal Reminiscences of Eminent Men," has just given to the world a volume of his long experience in connection with the Press, thus relates the early history of our facetious contemporary *Punch* :—

"Henry Mayhew was then (the summer of 1841) living in the neighbourhood of Charing Cross; and as I chanced to be a near neighbour of his, an arrangement had been come to by which I should visit him every morning; and I well remember that, for several weeks, we commenced the day at an early hour, in order that we might study 'Euclid' together. One morning, on entering his sitting-room, I found Mayhew in unusually high glee (although his spirits were seldom at a low ebb), and I instinctively came to the conclusion that, as he was constantly bent upon the discovery of some 'new notion,' he was now about to exhibit his creative power under circumstances of an exceptionally propitious character. 'I've a splendid idea!' he exclaimed, with an impulsive eagerness which showed that he had been anxiously wishing for an opportunity of opening his mind on that subject. 'What, another?' I exclaimed. 'Delighted to hear it! What is it?'—or words to the like effect. 'A new comic periodical,' said Mayhew. 'You know the French *Charivari*, don't you?' 'Yes,' was the reply. 'Well, my idea is to start a similar thing, called *Punch*; or the London *Charivari*.' 'Good,' said I. And we forthwith proceeded to draw a list of the names of artists and contributors whom Mayhew suggested should be asked to associate themselves with the undertaking. The name of Gilbert & Beckett (an old friend and collaborateur of Mayhew's in his works of a humorous and satirical character) was the first on the list, and then followed those of Douglas Jerrold, Mark Lemon (with whom Henry Mayhew was then in daily communication), Sterling Coyne, W. H. Wills, H. P. Grattan, and others. Suddenly, he or I, or both (but it is by no means material to the issue, as the lawyers have it), remarked that there was a clever fellow rejoicing in the *nom de plume* of 'Paul Prendergast,' who had recently shown much force of humour in 'The Comic Latin Grammar,' and who was then engaged in writing 'The Comic English Grammar.' To ascertain his baptismal name was the first step necessary; and we soon found it to be Percival Leigh, and that he was living in Chapel-place, Oxford-street.

"It was arranged that Mayhew should write to Douglas Jerrold, and that I should assist him in obtaining the co-operation of the chosen writers and artists to whom we could ensure easy access; but, above all, I was to seek out 'Paul Prendergast,' and offer him such terms as might tempt him to enrol his name among the contributors. I had no difficulty in seeing him (though he was busily occupied at his desk at the time), and on my telling him the object of my mission he very prudently said he had certain scruples about embarking in a publication without knowing something of its characteristics, and that he should be glad to have an opportunity of glancing at a copy before he could undertake to write for it. It could not be disputed that this somewhat uncommon piece of caution was perfectly reasonable; but when I took my departure I felt fully assured in my own mind that, as Mr. Leigh's reputation was yet to be established, and as his literary capacity appeared to indicate a quaintness of humour which must find a convenient outlet for its expression, his name would ere long be included among the adherents to *Punch*. Meanwhile, he conferred with his friend John Leech, who had illustrated his 'Comic Latin Grammar,' and the result was that 'Paul Prendergast' and John Leech made their joint obeisance to Mr. Punch in the fourth number of his work, in an article called 'Foreign Affairs'—the letter-press by the former, and the pictorial designs (representing types of Continental character, as seen in the neighbourhood of Leicester-square) by the latter.

"But our immediate business is with the initiation of the weekly periodical, some particulars of the birth of which cannot be otherwise than interesting, if not important, to a large portion of the public, hundreds of whom have been familiar with the work from its very commencement. Not much time had elapsed ere all preliminaries were settled, and the contents of the first

number agreed upon. Archibald Henning (long since passed away) was to be the chief illustrator, and Ebenezer Landells was to have the superintendence of the engraving department. The principal contributors to No. 1 were Gilbert & Beckett, Sterling Coyne, W. H. Wills, H. P. Grattan, Mark Lemon, and Henry Mayhew, the last two being joint editors. The frontispiece on the 'wrapper' was drawn by Henning, as was also the large cartoon, which, as it was the period of a general election, represented a group of 'Candidates under different heads' (Mr. Hodder makes a slight mistake here—it was 'Candidates under different Phases'), and the miscellaneous 'small cuts' were executed, if I remember rightly, by an artist named Brine. The printer was Mr. Joseph Last, then of Crane-court, Fleet-street, who, together with Mr. Landells, was a shareholder in the speculation."

To this account we may add that R. Bryant was the publisher of the earlier numbers, and the office was at 13, Wellington-street, Strand. The first number appeared on the 17th of July, 1841. At first it was the practice to have a new frontispiece every half-year—then the same design continued through several volumes, and the present well-known and excellent frontispiece, designed by Richard Doyle, has now run for many years. There have been, in all, six varieties. The "small cuts" alluded to by Mr. Hodder, were those exquisitely humorous black figures and groups which gave way to more ambitious but sometimes less funny illustrations.

THE PRESS IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.—Journalism in England is very far from having reached the place in public estimation which it ought to hold; while on the other side the Atlantic it has been elevated above the position to which it has the right to aspire. At the same time the leading journals of England exercise a much greater influence on England than do the leading journals of America on the United States. Thus, while the organs in the old country are the more powerful, the journalists in the new country hold a far higher position, and a very curious fact this is, but not difficult to account for. England is a land of precedent and old stereotyped ideas, the newspaper Press is comparatively new, and having supplied a public want it has achieved a public position. But the writers are unknown, and have never been recognised in the history of the country. They are an innovation and are so regarded, while all innovations are slighted and disliked by the Tory sentiment of the country. The people accept the paper as an abstract thing, and neither know nor want to know anything of those who make it; no more, indeed, than the paper-makers or the type-setters. In America they had no such prejudice to contend against, and a more enquiring mind to satisfy, so paper-maker and compositor, as well as the journalist, take a place in public estimation; the men becoming of as much interest as their work.—*Anglo-American Times*.

THE LIBEL BILL.—We are authorised to state that it is not the intention of Mr. Baines to bring in a bill affecting the Law of Libel during the present session of parliament.

"AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM."—If persons wish to modify in some degree the vitiating effects of the reading of party journals, there is but one plan to adopt,—the paper which they favour with their personal, must be the advocate of politics immediately opposite to their own. In this way their own knowledge and their own sentiments will probably enable them, by a process of negation, to strike a balance of truth, because their interests will impel them in the direction of the exact contradiction of what they read in print.—*"Britannia" Magazine*.

ANONYMOUS LEADER-WRITING.—Intellectually, the effects of his profession upon the journalist are not much better than they are morally. It is to be regretted, in the first place, that the financial temptations of journalism, and, as has been said, they are not inconsiderable, should bind over to themselves so many men who are capable of much greater things. The leading article is the grave of literature. It is a matter profoundly to be deplored that it should cover so much of what was once honourable literary ambition; that the vortices of journalism should absorb within the fatal radius of their influence so much of energy, talent, and, at times, even genius. The journalist lives unknown and dies unlamented, save, perhaps, by his editor. Anonymity is the death-blow to fame; the world certainly knows nothing of its greatest leader-writers.—*"Britannia" Magazine*.

"THE DURHAM COUNTY ADVERTISER," one of the oldest newspapers—and, we believe, the only Conservative paper in the North—just now gives vigorous evidence of new editorial management. The Conservative party does not support its papers. If the party did its duty the *Advertiser* ought to have an enormous sale.—*Illustrated Midland News*.

Correspondence.

THE "MODEST OFFER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—I can certify to the correctness of your correspondent's letter, signed "A Disgusted One," which appears in your April number. I enclose the original offer, with copy of advertisement, and think it quite time that newspaper proprietors should understand this dodge to get an advertisement inserted; for a quarter, or even a month, will answer the purpose. After receiving the enclosed order, having apprentices, and space at command, I wrote an answer, and took the "bull by the horns," offering to insert one whole year for £4, if paid in advance, thus allowing a liberal commission of £2. I received no answer. The transaction speaks for itself.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

W. M. CORNELIUS.

Dawlish Times Office, 15, Strand, Dawlish.

COMMERCIAL "DAILIES."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—In your review of "Mitchell's Newspaper Press Directory" for the current year, you made some remark about the omission of some daily publications that had as much right to be mentioned as the *Commercial Daily List*. Will you permit me to add to those you alluded to, the *Lombard Daily Reporter*, an evening sheet of precisely the same character as the *Public Ledger*.

Yours, &c.,

A CITY EDITOR.

[The publication in question was, we believe, not started till the commencement of the year, and possibly notice was not given to the publisher of the Directory in time for insertion.—ED. N. P.]

THROWING STONES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—It is a pity that our monthly periodicals seem to be so terribly "hard up" for subjects (or the talent to treat them, for subjects cannot be difficult to find, though periodicals are so numerous), that they must be continually "preaching" about journalism and journalists—topics in which the general readers of such publications have a very languid interest. Yet once again, in a magazine still in its infancy, up crops the inevitable article, as the second of a series entitled "Literati and Literatuli"—journalists apparently being doomed to the latter designation. After drawing a comparison between French and English newspapers, favourable to the former, the writer thus expresses himself with regard to the writers of the latter:—

"Servility being the basis of the occupation, it is not to be expected that journalism is at all likely to be congenial to those natures which are at once noble and free. We do not, indeed, deny that there are journalists who advocate the causes which they do, from other than mercenary motives, from something which they are pleased to call conviction. But we do unhesitatingly say that if the honest truth could be known, such exceptional cases as these will be found to constitute a very miserable minority. Men with clear business-like heads, some little power of fancy, considerable readiness of expression, general shrewdness; men devoid of all liberal education, wholly self-taught so far as their teaching goes, sprung from the *faux Romuli* and the residue of our population; men who know absolutely nothing by experience of our infinitely many-sided English life, of no social training, of no generous impulses; men who are to modern literature what the paid sophists were to Greek philosophy, ready to advocate any side, to espouse any cause if a sufficient sum is offered them,—renegades by nature, whom it is necessary only to bribe to cause them to desert their sworn allegiance, and who, if a Radical newspaper proprietor offers them a few shillings more wages than their Conservative employer, will trample the blue under their feet, and rush to the Orange standard without a moment's compunction—these be thy gods, O Israel! of this kind are the men who presume to instruct the public every morning in the columns of their respective prints."

I do not know what this gentleman's editor thinks of this daring charge, or how he felt if he placed it in juxtaposition with his own frank and honourable avowal in an article of his own, entitled "My First Paper," only a few pages further on, where he admits,

"Since the appearance of my maiden periodical I have seen much storm and little sunshine. I have edited two monthlies, three weeklies, and a daily. I have been in turn contributor, editor, and proprietor, leader writer, "comic copyist," and novelist, but the largest share of my heart is still occupied by my love for "My First Paper."

En passant I may express my regret on reading the first part of these confessions. Mr. à Beckett is yet much too young to have suffered all these inflictions; the freshness of his love for his maiden effort proves that he has not yet had the sharp edges rubbed off by any very severe trials; but young men under—shall I say thirty? are given to assuming the airs of martyrdom, to which the very name this gentleman bears is a great temptation. The "daily" was nothing more dreadful than the *Glossyorm*—the "weeklies," if we except the *Tomahawk*, were less likely to bring "storm" upon their youthful editor—but one of the "monthlies" at least seems born to bring insult upon its editor's head, if he allows such language to be directed in its pages against those branches of the profession of which he avows himself a thorough graduate, and claims to have been to some extent a martyr.

The clever son of a highly gifted father, whose memory is still cherished and respected among men, Mr. à Beckett has, I trust, experienced no more dangerous "storm" than a libel suit—a thing now getting so common as to be regarded as a storm in a teapot; and surely his share of "sunshine" must have been above the ordinary allowance, to have enabled him to enlist an earl and very nearly a royal duke also among his contributors. The Red Indian does not give way to fits of retrospective despondency; and the editor of the *Tomahawk* would be the last man I should suspect of surveying his past career in such a saddened spirit. Cheer up, young gentleman! The world is before you, and may you encounter fewer of its storms, and enjoy more of its sunshine,—but for the sake of your honourable name, don't encourage people to prate nonsense.

To me, it would appear that one of the "able seamen" of the good ship "Britannia" is biting his thumb at her captain, as well as "taking sights" of a very unprofessional kind, of the good men and true who are ploughing the same troubled ocean, with pluck, conscience, and talent at the helm, and perhaps more ballast than the "Britannia" carries.

I am, Sir, yours,

A NEWSPAPER HACK.

The *Anglo-American Times*, of the 9th ult., made the following judicious remarks on the article of the "Britannia" magazine, to which our correspondent refers:—

"Some write for pay, some for an idea, some for spite; but this is certain, that a free people may be judged by the tone of their Press. If it be sensual, servile, venal, ignorant, and unenterprising, the more that is learnt of the general characteristics of the people, the more clearly will the enquirer see how the Press is inspired; and a man who condemns the British Press, as the writer in *Britannia* has done, simply condemns his countrymen, if he be an Englishman. That a great journal should require the close supervision of one mind is self-evident, otherwise it must become a curiosity of incongruity. It is just as necessary, if it is to be made effective, that it should advance in line, as that a battalion should so advance; and those who take to journalism as a calling must comply with the requirements of the paper, or leave it if they cannot. They have no more right to expect permission to run loosely about than have soldiers on the march, or lawyers in a court, or clergymen in conducting a service. All these accept pay while working under guiding rules—not as their own imagination may dictate; and we fail to see wherein lies the sin of journalists in permitting themselves to be trammelled by the organ which they serve."

[EDITOR N. P.]

THE NEW NEWSPAPER POSTAGE.—The following is an extract from a letter received by the *Echo* in reply to an enquiry:—"I have to inform you that the intention is, that a postage of one halfpenny shall be paid by means of postage stamps upon each newspaper not exceeding six ounces in weight, and that a postage of one halfpenny will not carry a packet of newspapers under six ounces in weight. It will, however, be permissible to transmit newspapers in packets, under the arrangements of the book post, at the rate of one halfpenny for every two ounces, or fractions of two ounces, in weight, whenever such a course would be more economical. I may add, that further detailed regulations will be published in due course.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. BENTHALL."

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, April 26.

THIS has been a busy month for the journalists, who have had plenty to do and plenty to write: no want of "copy," but rather the perplexing difficulty of deciding what to insert and what to reject or let stand over. The great political question of the day was the Plebiscite, and as every journalist had his own opinions on the subject, which varied from those of others, it was amusing as well as instructive to compare the views and recommendations of the different writers. The subject has now been sufficiently ventilated and a decision arrived at, but for a long time it oscillated in the balance, and remained uncertain whether we are to be plebiscited or not. Last week a meeting of the opponents was held at the residence of M. Cremieux in the Rue Bonaparte, which was attended not only by the "Left" party in the Legislative Assembly, but also by the editors of the Parisian Democratic Press and the representatives of sixty-two Democratic provincial journals. A string of resolutions to oppose the Plebiscite was passed, and a committee of seven of the journalists there present was appointed to draw up a manifesto to the nation. The committee was composed of the following editors: Delescluze of the *Réveil*, Peyrat of the *Avenir National*, Jourdan of the *Siccle*, and Ulbach of *La Cloche*, as representatives of the metropolitan Press; and for the provinces Messrs. Lavertujon, of the *Fronde* of Bordeaux, Eugene Veron, of the *Progrès de Lyon*, and Duportal, of the *Emancipation de Toulouse*. The manifesto is couched in very violent terms, being drawn up by the vehement Radicals, Lavertujon of Bordeaux, Delescluze, and Peyrat, all of whom have a choice vocabulary of invectives at their fingers' ends, and are not afraid to use them in their strongest sense and an undiluted state. Louis Jourdan of the *Siccle*, an honest patriot and quiet supporter of M. Picard, was politely put aside and excluded from taking any part in the draft of the manifesto. Socialist emissaries have been despatched to all the departments of France, the former Radical electoral committees at Lyons, Marseilles, and other large and populous centres, have been re-constituted, and the different trades unions are busily engaged in increasing the agitation and fomenting the passions of the unwashed. It is worthy of remark, that M. Granier de Cassagnac and his son Paul, as opponents from principle to the Constitution of 1870, and supporters of the Empire *quand même*, abstain from taking any part in the agitation that is shaking France to its very centre. On the other hand, Picard, Keratry, and their followers, are negotiating with the leading members of the "Left Centre," for a coalition to publish a manifesto recommending the friends to give a negative vote. It is stated, but on what authority I am unable to say, as nothing has been published on the subject, that the Arch-Republican Ledru-Rollin has undertaken to pay all the expenses of the agitation. If so, it will cost him a pretty penny.

The Emperor has withdrawn his subsidy to the *Peuple Français*, as the editor, M. Duvernois, has fallen into disgrace, in consequence of which that gentleman has gone over to the Opposition, and abuses the Emperor and his Ministers in no very measured terms almost every day.

The *Echo Bordelais* is the name of a new illustrated weekly that has just appeared at Bordeaux, and promises to be very successful, as it is got up with great carefulness and the pictures give proof of much artistic talent. On the day that the first number appeared the whole edition was disposed of in a few hours, which necessitated the striking off of a second edition.

Another new financial paper has made its appearance in this city, under the title of the *Courrier des Chemins de Fer*. It is said to be started by very influential capitalists, among whom the Duc de Persigny is confidently mentioned.

On the other hand, a respectable old provincial paper called the *Alsace*, published at Colmar, has been discontinued.

As the Press in this country is in a very unsatisfactory condition, their chief object being apparently to inflame men's minds and stir up anarchy and discord, it requires very severe measures to keep the journalists in check, and put a bridle on

their ungovernable passions. Liberty of the Press has been granted to its full extent under the new *regime*, and is now on its trial. It cannot yet be said that it has done much good; but some allowance must be made for the novelty of the thing, the excitable nature of the French character, and above all the present unsettled state of the country; so that probably a long period of time will elapse before the Press settles down to a comparative degree of decency and moderation in the expression of ideas, and respect for the laws of the land. It is therefore not to be wondered at, that very severe penalties have been inflicted on those papers that have fallen under the power of the law, by turning the liberty of the Press into unmitigated licentiousness. Thus, since my last letter, the *Rappel* has been tried for expressions personally injurious and offensive to the Emperor. The offence was proven and the editor, Charles Hugo, condemned to six months' imprisonment and payment of a fine of 3,000 francs, and the *gérant*, M. Barbieux, to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 2,000 francs. The former did not make his appearance and judgment went by default; but the latter surrendered himself, and was ably but ineffectually defended by M. Cremieux. The *Sans-Culotte* has been summoned before the Court of Correctional Police, on the charge of having published extracts from revolutionary pamphlets and other political articles, the paper being neither "cautioned" nor stamped. The editor, one Olivier Pain, who is a student of law and ought therefore to have known that he was committing an illegal act, was convicted and sentenced to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 200 francs. The *gérant* of the *Misérable*, M. Picolet, has been condemned to four months' imprisonment and a fine of 400 francs, for writing on politics, and publishing it in a journal already suppressed by sentence of a court of justice. And, finally, I cannot omit mentioning the latest prosecution of the notorious *Marseillaise* for stirring up and inciting citizens to hatred of each other, attacks on the principle of the tenure of property, and attempting to seduce soldiers from their allegiance and commit acts of disobedience, for which M. Barberet, the *gérant* of the paper, is condemned to four months' imprisonment and a fine of 4,000 francs.

The French Government has made a valuable concession to the German Press by allowing the free entrance and circulation of the Berlin *Kladderadatsch*, which has been under the ban ever since the proclamation of the Second Empire, and very few numbers have appeared without containing some satire or caricature of the Emperor Napoleon. In making this decision known to the North-German Embassy, for the information of all whom it may concern, M. Giraudeau, the head of the Press department, stated that the paper would still have to undergo a light scrutiny, to prevent any disgusting or immoral caricatures of the Emperor.

AVANT COURIER.

La Misère is the lively title of a new one sou Paris paper, advocating the cause of poverty.

The readers of the *Fronde*, a French illustrated satirical paper, were lately astonished to find on the first page, where a political cartoon is usually placed, a red tablet, or placard, with a plain inscription in black letters, "Vive l'Empereur." The reason given for this extraordinary design was, that the engraving intended for that page had been rejected by the censor of the Press.

The new journal, *La Concorde*, is conducted under the direction of the Abbé Loyson, brother of Father Hyacinthe, and the Abbé Voirin, secretary of the Faculty of Theology in Paris. It supports the Gallican Church, and comes forward as an adversary of M. Veuillot.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, April 26.

Several changes in the German Press are announced with the advent of the new quarter. The *Altona Mercury* has changed hands, having been sold by Herr Richter of this city to a publisher of the name of Oscar Sorge at Altona; and the *Altona Zeitung* was discontinued altogether on the last day of March. Dr. Zehlicke has definitely undertaken the editorship of the *Schleswiger Nachrichten*. His political opinions are very liberal, and he has been connected with the Austrian Press for several years. He was recommended to the proprietors of the *Schleswiger*

Nachrichten by Dr. Zabel, the editor of the Berlin *National Zeitung*. Herr A. Niepa, hitherto sub-editor of the *Kieler Zeitung*, has been appointed to the chief editorship, *vice* Captain Hinsching, who has been the editor ever since the paper was founded, and who now abandons the profession and retires into private life, having been appointed *Bürgermeister* of the town of Wilster. At Berlin two new papers have been launched: the one is a commercial weekly and bears the imposing title of *Mercur, Zeitung für Industrie, Handel, and Gewerbe*. It is published by the great advertisement agent, Herr Rudolf Mosse, and French and English editions are to appear next quarter. The other is a class paper for subscribers belonging to the Mosaic religion, and is called the *Wochenschrift für die religiösen und geistigen Interessen des Judenthums*; it is edited by Dr. Nathan Schlesinger. The *Allgemeine Deutsche Versicherungs Zeitung* is the name of a new class paper specially devoted to the interests of fire and life assurance, published at Leipzig and edited by a well-known writer, Professor W. Karup, of Dresden. At Magdeburg a new weekly has been started by Dr. Schweitzer, the *soi-disant* friend of the working men, but, judging from what I have seen of it, the object seems to be to sow dissension and jealousy between them and their employers. The paper is aptly called the *Agitator*. In the Mecklenburg Press Dr. Mertelmeier, who has for the last half year been editor of the *Rostocker Tageblatt*, undertakes the editorship of the *Mecklenburger Zeitung*, a semi-official organ of the Government, and published at Schwerin, whilst he will be replaced in the first-named journal—which during the last six years has changed its editors at least half-a-dozen times—by the *Cand. Juris* Düberg, a young man of hitherto unknown capacity, and who has yet to make for himself a name in the journalistic world. The *Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung*, which ever since the retirement of Dr. Altenhöfer has displayed the name of "A. Koch" as that of the responsible editor, has now altered it to "Dr. J. von Gosen." On the 1st inst. Dr. Wohlbrück, the editor of the *Weser Zeitung*, of Bremen, celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his connexion in that capacity with the above-named Liberal journal. On the same day Herr Krause, the head of one of the largest printing offices at Berlin, and extensively connected with the Press of that city, also celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary as the founder of that establishment, where no less than seven newspapers are set up and printed. These are the *National Zeitung*, the *Bank und Handels Zeitung*, *Kladderadatsch*, *Das Haus*, the *Magazin für die Literatur des Auslandes*, *Die Annalen der Landwirthschaft*, and the *Post*. The three hundred compositors in his employment were regaled by him with a banquet, at which he himself presided, and where the utmost good feeling and harmony prevailed. Herr Krause received some valuable presents from the proprietors of the papers with which he is connected.

Dr. Bonfort, the able editor of the *Hamburg Correspondent*, lately received a letter from Herr Ernst, the lessee and director of the Stadt Theater—the principal Temple of Thespis in this city—complaining of the conduct of his theatrical critic in systematically finding fault with the performances, and announcing in consequence the withdrawal of the free tickets granted to the gentlemen connected with the paper. Dr. Bonfort sent this letter round to the editors of the other papers that contain dramatic critiques for their perusal, upon which they one and all returned to the director their free tickets, in order to preserve their independent judgment on the performances. After a very few days, however, the director, finding his house growing empty from no notice of the performances being taken by the daily Press, was fain to eat humble pie, and tendered an apology to the doctor and fresh tickets, upon which peace was again restored and the independence of the Press confirmed and vindicated.

The Saxon Government gives notice that as soon as the new Press law is promulgated and comes into operation, all caution-money deposited by the newspapers will be returned, together with interest on the same.

A literary gentleman, Dr. B— of Berlin, who last week arrived at Leipzig to enter on his duties as editor of a paper in that city, committed suicide at the hotel in which he had taken apartments, by blowing out his brains with a revolver. When the door was opened a horrid spectacle presented itself, and the

unfortunate man was found perfectly dead. Disease is supposed to have inspired him with the tragical resolution to get rid of his life.

We learn that the Roman Letters of the *Augsburg Gazette*, the author of which has been sought by the Roman police with great zeal but little success, and which, it is generally acknowledged, contain the most important and interesting information on the proceedings of the Council, will shortly be published in volumes of ten sheets each by Steinacker of Leipzig. The work will be edited by "Quirinus."—*North German Correspondent*.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, April 25.

In fully confirming all that I wrote to you last month about the printers' strike and its termination, it is satisfactory to be able to state to-day that everything is going on in a comfortable manner, and that the relations between the masters and the workmen are by degrees becoming more and more amicable, so that there is but little chance of a repetition of the strike,—at least for some time to come. But with the experience of late events fresh in their recollection the proprietors of journals and printing offices in this city are now organising a school for the special instruction of young women and girls in the art of type-setting, for which their slender and nimble fingers are admirably adapted, which it is considered will in time set free a large number of compositors and enable them to devote their time and energies to more manly occupation, and work more in accordance with their masculine strength. Hitherto there are but very few females employed here as compositors, but I may mention that in the government printing office at Prague they abound to a very large extent, even outnumbering the males; they have been so employed for many years, and the system has been found to work remarkably well. Much of the success depends on the class of females admitted into the establishment, and the control exercised over their morals; and most severe certificates of good conduct and antecedents, accompanied by sureties for good behaviour, are required before applicants can be admitted. It is thought that by following such a course, and with an equally strict supervision, similar good results may be achieved here. The compositors themselves offer no objections to the plan, and indeed many of them look forward with satisfaction to the period when they can be relieved from the confinement of an indoor occupation and may find employment in more healthy and congenial work in the open air with the faculty of taking exercise. At Pesth a similar plan is on the point of being realised; a wealthy lady there, a Baroness Antonia Rudnyanaky, has from pure philanthropic feelings established a school for the free instruction of twenty-four young women in the art of setting up type, and as she promises they shall be treated with all consideration due to their sex, she has been overrun with applications, and finds it difficult to make a selection. It is said that she ultimately intends to utilise the work of the pupils by starting some sort of periodical, and thus in time make the establishment self-supporting.

A report has been current—noticed also in the last issue of the *Newspaper Press*, but not from my pen—that the *Neue Freie Presse* of this city had been sold to an association of capitalists for a large sum—rumour talked of more than a million of florins. I am only enabled to confirm the fact that such a report was certainly in circulation, but nothing more has been heard on the subject since; at all events no reliable intelligence about it has transpired.

At Gratz a new paper has been brought out under the title of the *Freidenker, Blätter für Humanität, Aufklärung und Bildung*, under the editorship and general management of Herr Michael Biron. It proposes to follow the same humanising tendency as Dr. Löwenthal's *Freidenker* at Dresden.

The *Olas* of Cracow announces the failure of Herr Antony Kirchmayer, the proprietor of that well known journal and the principal banker in that city. Private accounts received here state that Herr Kirchmayer's liabilities amount to more than five millions of florins, and add that the paper will be carried on for account of the estate till a definite arrangement with the creditors shall have been made.

It is no secret here that for some time past disputes have been

going on between the proprietors and the editor of the *Vaterland*, one of the principal political journals of this city. From the subjoined qualified declaration lately published in that paper it appears that they have settled their differences, at least for the present: "In the interests of the public the undersigned give notice that the final settlement of the difference of opinion hitherto existing between them has been postponed till a meeting of the founders and proprietors of the *Vaterland* has been held. In consequence of this arrangement the hitherto manager of the establishment, Dr. B. Von Florencourt, will continue provisionally to conduct the business and act as editor. Vienna, April 7, 1860. (Signed) Count Leo Thun. Dr. B. Von Florencourt."

The Aulic Councillor, Herr Schmidt-Zabierow, hitherto the acting representative of the Privy Councillor Falke, in the Press department of Count Beust's Imperial Chancery, has just been appointed Director of the Affairs of the Press in the Ministry of the Interior for the Cis-Leithanian half of the Empire.

TEUTON.

* An Imperial decree has been issued ordering a remission of the penalties, either of imprisonment or fines, together with the attendant legal consequences, inflicted upon persons who have offended against the Press laws. In cases where there have been other indictments besides that for a Press offence the Superior Court is ordered to decide what punishment shall be inflicted.

As regards Press prosecutions still pending, the same are to be abandoned unless they have been commenced at the instance of private plaints.

THE POPE AND THE FLEABITE.—A caricature of the Pope having appeared in a Vienna comic paper, the *Flea*, the Papal Government addressed a complaint on the subject to the Austrian Foreign Office, through the Nuncio at Vienna, and at the same time hinted that the only satisfaction for the insult thus offered to the Church in the person of its head would be an official prosecution of the paper by the Austrian authorities. The Austrian Government, however, did not take the hint, so that the only course remaining to the Nuncio is to prosecute the paper himself—which, under present circumstances, he does not seem at all disposed to do.—*Eastern Budget*.

BAVARIA.

MUNICH, April 23.

The spring assizes for the province of Swabia were brought to a close by some interesting Press trials, which had been allowed to stand over till the last. The papers prosecuted were the two ultramontane organs, the *Augsburger Postzeitung* and the *Allgauer Volksblatt*, as well as the representatives of the Progressionist party, the *Augsburger Abendzeitung*, and the *Kemptener Zeitung*. The case of the *Augsburger Postzeitung* came on first, when the editor, Herr Birle, was charged with a libel on the Government, contained in an article on the late alterations in the Electoral Districts, in which some violent expressions were made use of, that the Procurator Fiscal maintained had reference to the Government, but which the editor explained were exclusively directed towards the Progressionists, who were mainly instrumental in causing the alterations in the Electoral Districts. On the strength of this declaration, and taking also into consideration the excited state of public feeling at the time the incriminating article was written, the jury found a verdict of not guilty, and the editor was consequently acquitted. On the same day, Herr Allfeld, editor of the *Kemptener Zeitung*, appeared in court to answer the charge preferred against him of "disturbing the peace of religion," together with the misdemeanour of making use of expressions dangerous to the State and libellous on an ecclesiastical authority (the Bishop's Ordinariate.) The Procurator Fiscal founded his charges on two articles contained in the above-named paper, severally entitled "the Lower Clergy" and "Clerical Secrecy," in which the doctrines of the celibacy of the priesthood was called in question and severely treated. However, as the editor admitted that the incriminating articles were written by a clerical hand of high standing in the hierarchy, and after hearing the defence made by the counsel, Dr. Völk, who pointed out and laid great stress on the very decided moral tendency of the argumentation contained in the articles, the jury could not be persuaded that they showed anything improper or criminal, and acquitted Herr Allfeld. On the following day the trial of the

Augsburger Abendzeitung was heard, the accusation being an insult to the Council of State and several members of that assembly individually. The incriminating article, which, according to the statement made by Herr K. Wirth, the proprietor and responsible editor of the journal in question, was written by a very high personage in the State, defends the rights of the King and especially the privileges of the Crown, criticises the address lately agreed to by the majority of the Council of State, and concludes with the solemn declaration that the people of Bavaria will never suffer a Co-Regent to be imposed on them. Herr Wirth denied most emphatically any intention to offend or insult any one, but was perfectly willing to undertake the full responsibility for the article, the contents of which were perfectly in harmony with his own views. After a splendid speech by the counsel, Dr. Völk, for the defence, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and Herr Wirth was consequently acquitted. On the other hand, Dr. Schneider, the editor of the *Allgauer Volksblatt*, after a trial which lasted eight hours, was convicted of the charge brought against him and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment in a fortress.

After protracted negotiations for the sale of the former Government organ, the *Bayerische Landeszeitung*, the transaction has at length been brought to a close, and since the 1st inst. it has become a representative of the Austrian interests, its new editor being a Dr. Volpi, formerly an agent of the Ex-King of Naples, but who has lately gone over to the party of the Clerical Liberals. It is, however, generally believed that he is the writer of a series of very severe invectives against the young King of Bavaria personally, that appeared in the Vienna *Tagespress* during the late ministerial crisis here. It cannot be doubted that it was a happy idea of Count Beust in inaugurating the appointment of a new ambassador at this court for Austria, to give him the support of a special organ in the Press of this city, and just to select one that the mass of the people are still accustomed to believe is written in the interests of the new Bavarian Ministry, as it was hitherto the recognised organ of Prince Hohenlohe.

According to the latest statistics of the Bavarian Press, made up to the 1st inst., there are now 420 political and non-political journals and other periodicals published in this kingdom.

ISAR.

RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 21.

The Central Department for the censorship of the Press calls the attention of the provincial Presses to the existing regulation prohibiting them from criticising and even from mentioning the contents of Imperial ukases and other legislative enactments published by the Government till they have appeared in the *Gazette of the Senate*, the official organ. By the renovation of this restrictive measure the free discussion on the current topics of the day has been greatly curtailed, and the influence of public opinion reduced to a minimum. Hitherto the papers were in the habit of stating as a piece of news or a current rumour that such and such a measure was about to be brought under the consideration of the Government, and then gave their opinion on its merits or otherwise, which frequently was not without its influence in the highest quarters and caused modifications to be made, so that the system was accompanied by fruitful results. The reproduction of the regulation, which had fallen into desuetude and was certainly "more honoured in the breach than the performance," is directed mainly, if not exclusively, against the Warsaw and other Polish journals, and is an integral part of the repressive system promulgated in the Press Law of 1865, and specially invented for keeping down and suppressing any expression of public feeling hostile to the Government that might crop up in the provincial Press and cause embarrassment to Ministers. Down to the year 1865 the treatment of the Press was, generally speaking, pretty equal in all parts of the Russian Empire, and the freedom of discussion that the principal political journals of this city and Moscow—especially the latter—arrogated to themselves was permitted also in the German and Polish provinces. Since then, however, a perfect transformation scene has been acted; for whilst the papers published in the two capitals enjoy the most perfect and unlimited freedom of discussion, any attempt on the part of the provincial Press to express public feel-

ing or offer opposition to Government measures is smothered in the most brutal and unfeeling manner by the sbirri of the censorship; so that the Press is in this anomalous position, that whereas the doctrines of the National Democratical party are publicly, I may almost say ostentatiously, paraded in the Press at St. Petersburg and Moscow, and even warmly supported in certain Government circles, any attempt to breathe freely and express honest convictions in the provinces is prohibited in the most summary manner, and contraventions punished by arbitrary fines and imprisonment. It frequently happens that facts and events, which are openly and freely discussed in the Press of the two capitals, are not even allowed to be reproduced by the provincial journals. In this way it has been brought about that the National party was enabled to constitute itself the organ of so called public opinion, and boast in Europe of the liberty of the Press in this country, whilst concealing the fact that all provincial papers are allowed no voice at all, but are doomed to suffer in silence the penalty of "chains and slavery." The publication of the above-mentioned admonition may be termed the crowning of the building which is in reality a prison-house, but which by the most barefaced perversion of facts is called a temple of freedom. Thus, while the *Golos*, the *Moscow Zeitung*, and others of that stamp inform their readers every day what measures are under discussion in the Council of State, and freely criticise the *pros* and the *cons*—which criticisms have frequently a great influence on the final result—the provincial journals are placed in such a humiliating position that they are not even permitted to say how the legislators pass their time and what they have been talking about.

The German *St. Petersburger Zeitung*, which a year ago played the part of advocate for the Baltic provinces, but threw up its brief on receiving a gentle hint from head-quarters that it would be better to remain quiet, or the most unpleasant consequences might be expected to ensue, has now undertaken to act the part of mediator; that is to say, it recommends the German provinces of Esthland, Liedland, and Courland, to abandon their guaranteed state rights and content themselves with certain personal privileges, such as religious freedom. The organs of the Moderate party praise this intervention, but those who are at all acquainted with the tenacity with which these Germans cling to the preservation of their rights and national privileges, solemnly guaranteed them by Peter the Great, are fully aware that they are not to be cajoled in that manner, but that they will resist to their utmost any attempt to deprive them of their inherited traditions, nor be induced to sell their undoubted rights for any tempting mess of pottage in the shape of imaginary and only apparent concessions.

The Russian Press is now composed of 206 journals and periodicals of various descriptions, of which 117 are published in the Russian language, 30 in German, 27 in Polish, 20 in Finnish, 4 in Hebrew, 3 in Lettish, 3 in French, 1 in Esthonian, and 1 in Armenian.

COSSACK.

The *Official Journal of the Ministry of Public Instruction*, published at St. Petersburg, gives an account of the number of foreign newspapers subscribed for through the Russian post-office—the postmasters in Russia being the only newsmen allowed. The total number of such subscriptions in 1868 was 6,846; of which 3,478 were for German, 2,243 for French, and 982 for English. The *Daily News* had 4 subscribers; *Daily Telegraph*, 1; *Economist*, 34; *Engineer*, 47; *Illustrated London News*, 241; *Mail*, 58; *Pall Mall Gazette*, 3; *The Times*, 65; and *Punch*, 136. Of course, these figures are independent of subscriptions effected in the countries where the journals are published.

POLAND.

At Warsaw an illustrated Polish journal is the last novelty. The wood engravings are very good; the letter-press tame, under the pressure of a severe censorship.

DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, April 23.

The unpleasant episode of the *fracas* in the Folkething, reported in my last letter, has made a great sensation here, as was

to be expected from the exceptional nature of the case. The young man who so far forgot himself as to inflict personal chastisement on the Member of Parliament, Herr Steenstrup, is the *Cand. Juris* Topsøe, Parliamentary reporter of the *Dagbladet*; he has been summarily dismissed by his employers, and has probably spoiled his journalistic career, as he was about to undertake the duties of responsible editor of that paper, its present occupant being on the point of retiring from the post he has so long held. His companion, who is also implicated in the transaction, though not to so great an extent, inasmuch as it was Topsøe who struck the blow, is the *Cand. Phil.* Dam Kier, the Parliamentary reporter of the *Fædrelandet*. *Statensrath* Bregendahl, the President of the Folkething, has informed that assembly that by an official communication from the Minister of Justice the Government have taken up the case, and legal proceedings have been commenced against the two reporters, who will be prosecuted on a criminal charge, and that Herr Behrend, Assessor of the Criminal Police-court, is instructed to conduct the proceedings. Some of the messengers and other officials of the Parliament, as well as a few members of the Folkething, have been subpoenaed as witnesses for the prosecution. I must not omit to add, that public feeling here is decidedly in favour of the delinquent, it being considered that he acted on the spur of the moment, whilst smarting under what he conceived to be his outraged feelings.

The *Flyvepost*, a Conservative journal of this city, founded five-and-twenty years ago by Herr Ed. Meyer, which at one period had a circulation of 10,000 copies, was discontinued on the last day of March. Latterly it was the property of Herr G. Sieaby, who was also the editor, he having bought it fifteen years ago in conjunction with a certain Herr Davidse for 100,000 rix dollars.

Herr Vilhelm Rasmussen, hitherto one of the editors of the *Dagens Nyheder*, has started a new daily paper in this city under the title of *Nyt Morgenblad*, which increases the number of daily newspapers published here to eight. Herr Robert Watt will continue as editor of *Dagens Nyheder*.

HAMLET.

SWITZERLAND.

The Russian agitator, Bakunin, who has been absent all the winter, has now returned to Geneva, and recommenced with great activity his organisation of the International Association. A good many Russian emigrants belonging to the so-called Nihilistic party are residing at Geneva, where they have founded a section of their own as a branch of the association. The *Kolokol*, founded and conducted till his death by the late Alexander Herzen, has now been resuscitated by Bakunin, who has undertaken the editorship, and appears to have ample funds at his disposal to enable him to carry it on for some time.

ITALY.

At Milan, a new financial journal has appeared under the title of *La Gazzetta dei Prestiti*, which boasts already of a considerable number of subscribers.

The death of M. Jacottet, the director of the *Italie*, of Florence, has been followed by dissensions among the gentlemen composing the staff of that hitherto successful periodical. M. Erdan, the correspondent of the French *Temps*, and for some time past the political editor of the Florentine print, has withdrawn from the concern, and announces his intention of starting a new journal, in French, under the title of *L'Italie Indépendante*.

SPAIN.

The Civil Governor of Barcelona has suppressed the Carlistic journal *La Convicción*, of that city, by special instructions of the Captain-General of the province, who possesses the power to do so, as the town is still in a state of siege, and under military law.

TURKEY.

Turkish newspapers now compare favourably with other European journals. Twenty years ago there was but one Turkish newspaper in the whole kingdom, and that was an official

one. The English, French, and even the Italians, have now their journals in Constantinople. Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Roumanian, Servian, Bulgarian, Hebrew, and illustrated and comic papers are not wanting. A journal devoted to the interests of woman appeared not long ago, under the title of *Progress*, and has now a good subscription list. A Turkish journal, called the *Orakir*, printed with Armenian letters, is now being published. There is also a Catholic Armenian journal of Constantinople, which lately received a "warning" from the Government, on account of intolerance and its ultramontane heresies.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, April 14.

Another Press fracas has enlivened our newspaper circles since my last letter. Mr. George Wilkes, of the *Spirit of the Times*, has been cowed in Broadway by Major Leland. Mr. Wilkes's account of the affray is as follows:—

"We were walking down Broadway on Tuesday last about two p.m., with our overcoat and undercoat both tightly buttoned, and our gloves buttoned on our hands. When near Pearl-street, we were suddenly struck from behind, on the back of the head, with the hook of a light bamboo cane. We turned instantly and saw the rascal Leland endeavouring to deal another blow, and closing with him snapped his cane in two. We then stepped backward to the doorway of a store to give position, and while doing so threw open our overcoat. Leland, seeing us still embarrassed with our undercoat and gloves, made another rush, but struck ineffectually with the pieces of the cane. He then quickly retreated, and being surrounded by a great number of people succeeded in making his escape. It was at an hour when there is a mob within every twenty feet of sidewalk on Broadway, and, not being hurt at all, we did not think it became us to press onward, through the crowd, and to run after him; and so the major got away. The major was in great luck—greater, probably, than he will ever be again, for when we next see him he will cross the street."

The offence given was certainly quite equal to the punishment, for Major Leland had been attacked by very coarse, if not foul language, most persistently by the *Spirit*. The following is a sample of the abuse:—

"Major Leland would recollect anything for a 5 dol. note; he is a notorious swindler and scoundrel, whose infamy is as common as the air. He would not be believed, on oath, by any jury in New York, and adding beastly cowardice and brutishness to his dishonesty, is discountenanced even by his own brothers for his frequent cruel beatings and kickings of a wife, who, in addition to being adorned with every womanly virtue, has borne him several children."

It is rumoured that the attack was not of the "kid glove" order which Mr. Wilkes would have his readers believe, but that he was knocked down by a stout oak cudgel, and fled for safety into a store, whither his assailant followed him, and administered a severe beating. Be this as it may, Mr. Wilkes declined to appear against his assailant before the police. Poor Mr. Wilkes is also just now threatened with a libel suit by the proprietors of the *Turf, Field, and Farm*. All this may teach him the prudence of moderating his language, and giving up the bad practice of calling names.

The editor of the *Catholic Standard* of Philadelphia must have a hard time of it, if he himself fulfil the conditions which he lays down as the editorial functions:—

"Would our readers like to know what is expected of editors now-a-days? There is not a more severely tasked set of literary labourers in the world. They are required to know everything; to give a full account of what is transpiring in Rome, in 'any county' in Ireland; they must translate every language into English; they must dig into the labyrinths of learning for the benefit of their readers; they must be literary like Ximenes; have the poetical genius of a Tom Moore, and be as practical as Vanderbilt. Failing in this, they must be content to pass for blockheads. They must be dignified and sprightly; profound and spicy; they must write elaborate leaders as well as short and racy paragraphs; they must flatter friends and cut into enemies; they must be true to conscience and hurt nobody's feelings; they must review books, revise correspondence (in

which the slightest omission or alteration of a word bring vengeance upon their devoted heads); they are expected to answer scores of letters daily; and at the same time be exceedingly polite to all who come into the office; and they must trust subscribers and pay cash to the printers. In compensation for all this, they are expected to find recreation in attending lectures, and all assemblages of public interest, and giving 'full details' of what they saw."

Another editor in Philadelphia knows a trick worth two of this, for he has just started the *Transatlantic*, which is entirely made up of articles from foreign papers, and sells well.

A new scientific and mechanical journal has just been started at Philadelphia, called the *American Engineer*.

Judge Dwyer and Mr. Vallandigham have sold the *Dayton Ledger* to Mr. John J. Doran, of the *Cincinnati Engineer*, who will in future be the editor in chief.

The Lydia Thompson affray at Chicago has become a thing of the past, but it may be as well to preserve the following remarks of the *New York Citizen*, by way of warning to all critics who may be too prone to indulge in personalities beyond their province:—

"There is this excuse for the women who disgraced themselves by engaging in a street fight, that they may have felt obliged to conform to the customs which prevail in Chicago. They made, nevertheless, a lamentable mistake. No one can defend their conduct. However much the editor may have abused them, they only made matters worse by engaging in a disgusting brawl. They fully deserved the disgrace of being arrested and fined, and they can hardly find fault with the editor who returned blow for blow, even though his active antagonists were only women."

"But while the women themselves are estopped from blaming the conduct of the editor, either before or during the fight, the public will not hold him blameless. That he struck the women with his heavy cane, no one denies. Now it must certainly be a very unpleasant thing to be struck by those at whom we cannot strike back. And yet this is the hard position of a man who is attacked by a woman. It is generally conceded that if he cannot seize and hold the hands of his assailant, and thus protect himself without harming her, there are but two courses left to him: he must either retaliate in the playful and peculiar manner in which the late William Burton threatened to defend himself from the attack of an indignant woman, or he must run away. The Chicago editor could not adopt the Burtonian method, inasmuch as his assailants were three or four in number. Consequently his duty was plain—he should have sought safety in flight. It is surely no disgrace for a man to run away from a too fascinating female; neither can it be held to be cowardly for him to run from an indignant and whip-wielding woman. At all events, it is far more manly to run away than it is to break women's fingers and beat them on the head with heavy walking-sticks. That the Chicago editor chose the latter course may have been due to his early education and long experience in the barbarous ways of the wild Chicagoians; but his conduct deserves the severest condemnation. The universal creed of civilised society proclaims him a coward who lays his hand upon a woman, except in a friendly or playfully Burtonian manner. If the Chicago editor preferred the customs of his own townsmen to those of the civilised world, he has only himself to blame, if he finds that the public sentiment of the latter regards him as having done a cowardly and dishonourable deed."

"The offence which aroused the anger of the blondes was the peculiar process of personal abuse which the Chicago editor mistook for criticism. Not content with denouncing the acting of Miss Thompson and Miss Markham in their favourite burlesques, as unworthy the attention of an enlightened Chicago audience, he asserted that the private character of nearly every woman in the troupe was simply infamous. Suppose his assertion had been true, what right had he to make it? To criticise the conduct of the women while on the stage is the lawful province of the critic, but to follow them into private life, and to libel them under the pretence of defending the purity of the stage, is as impertinent as it is outrageous. The Chicago editor had a right to abuse the acting of the blondes, provided he could do so honestly and with some degree of intelligence; but he had no

possible right to follow them into private life and to criticise their actions while off the stage. Even had his libels had any basis in truth, his conduct would have been none the less inexcusable. It is no part of the critic's business to attempt to injure the actress by libelling the woman.

If the result of the battle at Chicago shall be to call attention to the grave outrage of which so-called critics are sometimes guilty, it will not have been fought in vain. The combatants, however, have only injured themselves by their participation in the fight. The women who struck the editor, and the editor who flogged the women, are sharers in the same disgrace. Let us hope that their example will not be followed outside of Chicago, either by journalists or actresses.

SOL.

Mr. Greeley, at the Irish dinner at Delmonico's, on St. Patrick's Day, spoke on the "Abuse of the Press." There were doubtless "upright, honest journalists in New York—while perhaps no city was more widely accused by men who make the Press an instrument of calumny, of malignity, and of every kind of abuse." According to the *Tribune*, however, New York has not the unenviable distinction, for Connecticut alone enjoys the privilege of being "invested with a journal which can compress more deliberate, wilful, wicked, villainous lies into a square inch than any other that is or ever was printed." To do Mr. Greeley justice, although he does give vent occasionally to impetuosity, it never takes the repulsive form he justly censures in the following words:—"The Press may legitimately and fairly canvass public men and measures, and there is very little attention paid to it. Very little harm follows that course; but let a journal commence to-morrow, resolved to slander every one; to drag secret things to light; to make itself spicy by calling every shrinking person before the gaze of the multitude, and that journal will fly on the waves of the wind, boast of its circulation, and its power will become the terror of the public and the fortune of its proprietors."—*Anglo-American Times*.

The North American colonies in the year 1720 had only seven newspapers; in 1810, the United States had 359; in 1826, they had 640; in 1830, they had 1,000.

It might be thought that in their feverish chase after wealth the citizens of Chicago had become indifferent to religious observances. Their leading journals appear on Sundays as well as on the other days of the week. This is opposed to the practice not only of England, but of the Eastern States of America also. In the principal cities there are Sunday newspapers, but as a rule the daily journals are not published on Sunday. Here, on the contrary, the Sunday copies of the *Tribune* and the *Times* are much sought after, and contain an extra quantity of reading matter. But while newspapers are in demand, the churches are not deserted.

There are now published in Iowa upwards of two hundred newspapers and periodicals, nine of which are printed in German and one in Norwegian. Sixteen are issued daily, about one hundred and eighty weekly, five monthly, two bi-monthly, and one quarterly. Politically they are divided as follows: Republican, 147; Democratic, 39; independent or unknown, 2; agricultural, 2; educational, religious, legal, masonic, and historical, one each.

A Tory paper speaks of "a man with one eye named John Welch," but does not inform us what was the name of his other eye.

A story has recently travelled from America, and if not true, may be thought well invented. A reporter is said to have stated of a certain lecture that "it was a brilliant affair. The hall ought to have been filled, but only forty persons were present. The speaker commenced by saying that he was by birth an ecclesiastical deduction; and gave a learned description of Satan and his skill in sawing trees. Among other things, he stated that the patriarch Abraham taught Cecrops arithmetic." Next day the lecturer sent to say: "You have made some mistakes which I wish to correct. You make me speak of myself as by birth an ecclesiastical deduction. What I said was, that I was not by birth, but only ecclesiastically, a Dutchman. Instead of speaking of Satan as sawing trees, I spoke of him as sowing tares. I said nothing of Abraham, but spoke of the Arabians as

nomads of patriarchal simplicity; and said of Cecrops that he was the founder of Athens, and instructed the people in agriculture."

The chair of an American editor is full of thorns. If a conductor of a journal prints an unfavourable criticism, he is set upon in the street, as Miss Thompson and her satellites attacked Mr. Story in Chicago the other day. If the writing is particularly strong—as we are bound to admit it too often is—the editor has actually to run the gauntlet for his life. Recently two editors have been attacked in the street by persons who thought themselves aggrieved by what had been said about them. One was Colonel John Wilder, senior editor of the *Kansas City Journal*, who, whilst talking to a friend in the street, was fatally shot by one Hutchinson. The nature of Col. Wilder's offence is not stated. In the other case, Mr. George Wilkes, well known in this country as the editor of *Wilkes's Spirit of the Times*, was caned by a Major Leland, who was irate, and perhaps with reason, at some remarks that had appeared in Mr. Wilkes's paper. In the majority of cases American journalists have only themselves to blame in these recriminatory matters. They are nothing if not personal; and so long as they continue to drag private affairs before the public gaze, so long shall we hear of such street encounters as those which we have recorded.—*Illustrated Midland News*.

Lydia Thompson has published a pamphlet describing her argument with the Chicago editor, entitled the "Literature of the Lash."

Charles A. Dana, of the *New York Sun*, has sued the *Chicago Republican* for 20,000 dols. salary due for editorial services in 1865 and stock promised. He was to receive 7,500 dols. salary and 100,000 dols. in stock. The following editorial announcement appeared in the *White Pine Daily News*, a Nevada paper, of March 14:—"Apologetic.—At the present writing we are in the midst of the most terrific storm we ever experienced anywhere. The atmosphere is not intensely cold, but it curls about with a rapidity, variety, and industry not at all charming. The tin roof of the office has gone off entire, and all hands are at work without shelter. The gale is so terrific that repairs cannot be made, and we are compelled to freeze it out, praying for an early subsidence of the storm. Under the circumstances, it is necessary to crave the indulgence of our friends with the deficiencies of this issue of the *Daily News*. Every man is in his place, all industriously working in the cold, labouring to bring out some sort of publication, to keep up the proper daily appearance."—*Anglo-American Times*.

A TYPE SETTING MATCH.—George A. Barber, a compositor on the *Cincinnati Commercial*, having published a challenge to the craft, wherein he holds himself ready to set type against any other man for ten consecutive hours, for a purse of 1000 dols., the *New York Tribune* says the challenge has been accepted by Geo. Arensberg, of the *New York Times*, who has put down the forfeit money. Since the art of type-setting has been known, the question of how many types, according to printers' measurement, could be set up and corrected in ten hours' time, has been an open one, and now that an opportunity is to be given of settling it, the printers of the country will not cease to speculate upon it until the event has passed. It is claimed by those acquainted with these men that each has set as much as 17,000 ems of type in ten consecutive hours. When the reader is informed that 17,000 ems are equal to about 40,000 separate pieces of metal, he will have a basis upon which to calculate. To do this, one piece must be lifted in each moment, the time of justifying each line, and transferring each stickful to a galley, included. Should the match take place, and should either perform what it is claimed he can do, it will surpass anything before known of mechanical motion. The test copy is to be a message of the President, run into one solid paragraph, and the type is to be nonpareil.

CANADA.

The *Dart*, a second comic paper, made its appearance at Montreal in February. We announced the birth of *Grinchuckles* some months ago, in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*. Stillborns are usually huddled under cover as soon as possible—it would be

a great relief to us if we were not expected to announce the hopeless births, and the rickety boastings that die in their second or third month; but our correspondents—probably proud of colonial prodigies—are too anxious to keep us "posted" of these weakly births, which, once communicated, we feel as much delicacy and responsibility in suppressing, as a conscientious *accoucheur* has in smothering an abortion. Spare us, dear friends, in future the risk of falling into the crime of Herod or under the lash of Dr. Lankester. Infanticide is shocking in human life, but in journalism, we begin to hold it is, if not wholesome, at least harmless. The Press has been likened to a great tree—don't we nip off the weakly shoots, so that the overspreading boughs may grow stronger—and is that process reckoned sinful? Don't weaken your young Press growth, Canada, of the great promise, by letting a superabundance of shoots spring out of your yet soft bark.

MEXICO.

This is the last country in the world where we should expect to hear of editors dying a natural death, or being esteemed if they arrived at that happy consummation; but news comes to us by last mail that Congress has voted 30,000 dols. for the relief of the family of Senor Tanco, late editor of the *Siglo*.

AUSTRALIA.

The *Afternoon Telegram*, a penny paper, was started at Sydney on the first of January.

The *South Australian Register* became an eight-page paper on the first of January. The *Advertiser* has challenged it to prove which has the largest circulation, the loser to pay £50 to Adelaide charities—the *Register* has accepted the challenge.

TASMANIA.

The first number of a newspaper called the *Tasmanian Independent* has been issued in Hobart Town. It is a religious journal devoted to the interests of Congregationalism.

With the opening of the year the weekly edition of the *Cornwall Chronicle* was published in the same style as the *Australasian*, with an illuminated heading. It is now publishing an illustrated tale, entitled "The Soldier of Fortune."

The Hobart Town *Evening Mail* died with the year.

Law Intelligence.

HOME CIRCUIT.—KINGSTON, April 2.

(Before Chief Justice COCKBURN and a Special Jury.)

ELWORTHY V. MILLIKEN.

THIS was an action to recover damages for certain alleged libels, to which the defendant pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Serjeant Parry and Mr. Joyce were counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. C. Pollock, Q.C., appeared for the defendant.

When the case was called on a short consultation took place between the learned counsel on both sides, after which

Mr. Serjeant Parry addressed the jury, and said he was happy to inform them that they would not be troubled with an enquiry into this case. The plaintiff was Mr. Albert Henry Elworthy, a solicitor, and he complained of two libels that were published in a highly-respectable journal, which enjoyed a large circulation among members of the legal profession, called the "Solicitors' Journal and Reporter." The plaintiff, it appeared, had established an association at Greenwich called the West Kent Legal and Mercantile Association, and he acted as the solicitor to that association. The libels complained of were contained in an article commenting upon this association, and in one part of that article the Law Association was called upon to keep its eye upon the plaintiff and the association with which he was connected. He should state that one of the objects of the association was to recover the debts that were due to the members by legal proceedings, and although its various amounts in connection with the election expenses of Lord Mahon at the last election for the borough of Greenwich had been obtained through the medium of the association, and although it was probable that the position of the plaintiff was one that would not be looked upon with a favourable eye by members of the higher rank of the profession of the law, he was instructed that the plaintiff had always conducted himself in the position he occupied in connection with the association in question in the most honourable and proper manner, and that there was not the least ground for casting any imputation upon his character. He believed that his learned friend would endorse this statement, and under these circumstances it had been arranged

between them that a juror should be withdrawn, and there would be an end of the matter.

Mr. Pollock said that he appeared on behalf of the defendant, Mr. Milliken, who was the proprietor of the "Solicitors' Journal," and he had no desire whatever to go into the previous history or character of the plaintiff. All he had to say on the part of the defendant was, that he considered he had done nothing in reference to the matters complained of that was not quite consistent with his duty in commenting upon what was even admitted by his learned friend to be an irregular proceeding on the part of an attorney. The defendant considered that the comments he made were only fair and proper under the circumstances; but he had no knowledge of the plaintiff whatever—in fact, he was an entire stranger to him, and he had no difficulty in stating that he had not the slightest intention of casting any imputation upon the character of the plaintiff, and he had no personal feeling at all in the matter.

A juror was then withdrawn.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—APRIL 22.

(Sittings in Banco, before the LORD CHIEF BARON and BARONS MARTIN, PIGOTT, and CLEASBY.)

LEE V. BOSWORTH.

The plaintiff was the proprietor of a newspaper published at Leicester, and the defendant had acted as agent for Mr. Frewen, a candidate at the election for the county, in opposition to Lord George Manners. A printer named Cox brought an action against the plaintiff for libel in publishing a speech made by Mr. Frewen during the contest reflecting upon his character, and recovered 20*l.* damages. The present action was brought on an alleged guarantee given by Mr. Bosworth to indemnify the plaintiff against all loss arising from the action of Cox. The trial took place at Westminster in February last, before the Lord Chief Baron, and ended in a verdict for plaintiff, damages 300*l.*

Mr. Huddleston, Q.C., now, by leave of the learned judge, moved to enter a nonsuit, or for a new trial, on the ground that the verdict was against the evidence, and that the damages were excessive. He contended that both the evidence and the correspondence between the parties went to show that Mr. Bosworth had given the plaintiff no indemnity to hold him harmless in Cox's action.

The court granted a rule nisi.

PINDER V. POTTER.

This was an action for libel, tried before Mr. Baron Martin at Stafford, when the verdict was for the plaintiff—damages 20*l.*

Mr. Henry Matthews, Q.C., now moved for a new trial on the ground of misdirection, and that the verdict was against the evidence. The libel appeared in the *Staffordshire Sentinel*, and was in the shape of a letter to the editor, headed "Our Brave Volunteers," in which an officer of the Burslem Rifle Corps was charged with cruelly torturing a dog; the facts were however explained, and a verdict given for plaintiff as already stated.

The Lord Chief Baron, in giving judgment, said, no one looked with greater abhorrence than he did on anything like cruelty to a dog, the friend of man; and the general detestation of such conduct imparted a very serious character to the charge contained in the libel, which was, that a volunteer had intentionally inflicted torture upon one. The plaintiff adopted an inconsiderate way of destroying the animal, but he had no deliberate intention to torture him, and the jury found that the libel was untrue. Under these circumstances it was impossible to disturb the verdict.

Mr. Baron Pigott, in concurring, said, if the writer of the letter had merely stated the facts, and left the reader to draw his own conclusions, he should have thought that it was a cruel way to destroy the dog. He had no doubt of that; but if a jury had found that there was no intention to torture he should be the last man to disturb the verdict. In this case the jury had found that there was no such intention, and he could not say they were not right. Whether the plaintiff was a good or a bad shot would make a difference, and if it were the latter it would go a great way to show cruelty.

Mr. Baron Cleasby could not help feeling that the plaintiff, in the mode he adopted of killing the dog, had acted in some respects wrongly—without discretion and foolishly; but that was no reason why he should be accused of intentionally torturing it, and held up to contempt.

Mr. Baron Martin said, if the libel merely was that the plaintiff, being a bad shot, adopted an injudicious and imprudent mode of shooting the dog, there would have been evidence to go to the jury in support of the justification; but the sting of the libel was, that an officer and a gentleman intentionally tortured the animal, and no such idea ever entered the plaintiff's mind.

Mr. Matthews applied to be allowed to appeal.

The Lord Chief Baron said, as there was no point of law involved, and as the charge was a very serious one to make against anyone having the slightest pretence to humanity, the court could not grant an appeal.

Rule refused.

ACTION FOR LIBEL AGAINST THE "PORCUPINE."—On April 2nd, at the Liverpool Assizes, the case "*Begina v. Hugh Shimmmin*," in which a criminal information had been filed against the defendant, the proprietor and publisher of the *Porcupine*, and had been sent down by the Court of Queen's Bench, was heard before Mr. Justice Brett and a special jury. The case has excited considerable interest in mercantile circles in Liverpool, the complainant upon whom the alleged libel was published being a merchant and shipowner in that town. Sir John Karlake, for the prosecution, stated that the libel was published in the *Porcupine* after an investigation, which was held in Liverpool, by direction of the Board of Trade, into the loss of the *Golden Fleece*, which had resulted from some of her coal bunkers being left open. The article which appeared in the *Porcupine* was headed, "Marine Coal Scuttling," and gave sarcastic instructions how to scuttle over insured ships; amongst other plans mentioned, the one which resulted in the loss of the *Golden Fleece*. The vessel was not mentioned by name, but the prosecutor held that the allusion was obvious and notorious. This was denied on the part of the defence, and after the examination of a number of witnesses and a very long trial altogether, the jury at once returned a verdict of guilty. Sir John Karlake asked his lordship if he would grant a certificate if it was

found necessary. His lordship replied that he would grant whatever certificate might be found necessary.

At the Leeds Assizes, an action was brought by a Mrs. Banks against the publisher of the *Nottingham Daily Guardian* for libel. The libel complained of was an allegation that the plaintiff had received 10s. as a bribe for her vote during the municipal elections in Nottingham in November last—the first at which women voted. Defendant published plaintiff's contradiction of the assertion, but refused to express regret or give up the name of his informant. The jury found for the plaintiff—damages 40l.

At the Guildhall Police Court, on the 2nd ult., Dr. Edmunds, one of the members of the St. Pancras Board of Guardians, applied for a summons against the publisher of the *Daily News* for a libel.—Ald. Gibbons said he could not see anything in the statements that amounted to libel.—The summons was consequently refused.

Sir John Karslake applied on the 19th to the Court of Queen's Bench, on behalf of the Earl and Countess of Sefton, for a rule nisi against the proprietor of the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, to show cause why a criminal information should not be filed for libel. The matter complained of was in substance to the effect that the Prince of Wales was about to appear in the Divorce Court as a co-respondent in which the Countess of Sefton would be respondent. Sir John Karslake said that there was not the slightest foundation for this scandalous fabrication. The rule nisi was at once granted.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. W. J. PROWSE.

THE death of Mr. W. J. Prowse took place on the 17th ult., at Cimiez, near Nice. The deceased, who had long been in delicate health, was on the editorial staff of the *Daily Telegraph*, and, when in London, was a frequent contributor of light and humorous articles to various publications. "Macmillan's Magazine" for April had an article from his pen on "Smollett at Nice."

The name of Mr. Prowse may possibly be unknown to the readers of newspapers, but his writings are familiar to that vast unknown public for whose literary sustenance it is the mission of journalism to cater. As a leader writer in the *Daily Telegraph*, as "Nicholas" of *Fun*, and as a contributor to the pages of various periodicals, Mr. Prowse had for many years been a purveyor of the literature of the day, to the instruction and amusement of the public. It was his fate, as it was also his inclination, to live and die as a journalist pure and simple. Two years ago the health of Mr. Prowse showed signs of impairment, and he was ordered to pass his winters upon the Riviera. The soft air of Cimiez at first revived his strength, but only for a brief period, and he gradually sank from point to point of physical weakness, till the fatal hour came.

Home Subjects.

WE learn and report with pleasure that there is no truth whatever in the statement to which we regret to have given currency in this column the week before last, that Mr. Henry Kingsley is about to vacate the editorial chair of the *Edinburgh Daily Review*. So far from having been "unsuccessful" in his new literary sphere, the proprietors of the *Daily Review* have, we learn upon authority, reason to congratulate themselves most heartily upon having secured the services of so able an editor.—*Literary World*.

"THE BARNSELY TELEGRAPH" is the latest addition to the cheap provincial Press. The latest addition to our class papers is the *Tobacco Plant*.

THE REPORTER'S TROUBLES.—The reporter for the Press has to do much against time. When an important meeting is likely to be long this is provided against by sending a staff of two or more reporters; and in the Houses of Parliament relays of reporters succeed each other as the time wears on, from the commencement of the business to its close. At the best, however, the reporter is expected to transcribe his report from his notes hurriedly, often in a badly-lighted and much-jolting railway carriage, sometimes in a post-chaise or cab, and always when to a certain extent his strength is lowered by his labours at the meeting, or before. It is not wonderful, then, that blunders are made; yet sometimes, it must be allowed, these are inexcusable.—*Printer's Register*.

THE lively descriptions of amusements in Spain, now occasionally publishing in the *Times*, are from the pen of Mr. Oxenford, who is away on a holiday.—*Court Circular*.

THE "CAMBRIA DAILY LEADER."—We hear that this well known Swansea paper published its last number on Saturday last, the 30th of April. It was Liberal, though by no means extreme in its politics; it was started in 1861, and was the first daily paper published in Wales.

A TEMPERANCE editor, in drawing attention to an article against ardent spirits in one of his papers, says—"For the effects of intemperance see our inside!"

MESSRS. LONGMANS & CO. will shortly publish a volume entitled "Westward by Rail: the New Route to the East; containing the Letters about the Pacific Railway, the Mormons, and California," which recently appeared in the *Daily News*, from the pen of Mr. W. F. Rae.

REDCAR.—Mr. G. F. Bates sends us the prospectus of a new penny paper which he proposes to bring out on the 6th of May, under the title of the *Redcar and Saltburn Advertiser*.—"It will be devoted to the interests of the two flourishing and popular watering places of Cleveland, and the attempt will be made to furnish a high-class journal of such a character as to give satisfaction to all classes of people visiting and residing in our sea side resorts."

THE VERY DICKENS AHEAD.—In days of yore, when Earl, then Lord John, Russell was member for North Devon, a renowned race took place from Exeter to London, with reports of one of his speeches, between Mr. Dickens, then a reporter for the *Morning Chronicle*, and a gentleman still on the staff of the *Times*. Both posted, but on the way Mr. Dickens gave the slip to his friend, who rode quietly along, imagining that he was in advance instead of in the rear, and did not discover his error until he saw the speech in the *Chronicle*.—*Printer's Register*.

A REPORTER-MADE SPEECH.—We have heard of the exploit of a reporter who attended a meeting far away from home, and who, having left in good time to catch the return train, found to his dismay that the representative of an opposition paper had by remaining a few minutes later obtained the speech of a gentleman of some position. What was to be done? Personally as well as professionally he did not like to be beaten; so, being well acquainted with the style of the speaker, whom he had heard upon the same subject before, he resolved to write a speech for him, and actually produced what proved to be about as good a report as his rival's.—*Printer's Register*.

MR. TOM HOOD lately permitted himself to be announced as the editor of the *Latest News*, without having, we suppose, the power to exercise a supervision over its contents. He now announces that, as a scurrilous story appears in its columns, he has ceased his connexion with the paper. A very proper determination.—*Stationer*.

MR. G. ATTER, late clerk to Mr. Dunham, of the *Daily News* city office, has been appointed city editor of that paper. This gentleman was formerly a junior clerk in the same office.

BANKRUPTCY NOTICES.—It is only right to remind those whose duty it is to make official notification of bankruptcies and assignments of property to creditors, that the mere advertisement of the fact in the *London Gazette* is not sufficient. The notice must appear in a local paper. Here is an illustration in point:—In a case tried at the last Liverpool Assizes, the assignees of a bankrupt failed to recover a sum of money that had been paid by the defendants to the bankrupt after the adjudication had taken place. The notice of assignment appeared only in the *London Gazette*, and this was held to be insufficient publication.

THE SEDITIOUS PRESS IN ENGLAND.—The *Irishman* argues the necessity of Press law for England. It declares that if sedition is rightly defined as the "stirring up of one portion of her Majesty's subjects to hatred against another," a part of the Press of England is deeply seditious. "Those papers," it says, "systematically misrepresent Ireland. They hold up her people to mankind as uncivilised barbarians, whose pastime is murder and violence. They declare that the Irish people must be 'shot down,' 'stamped out,' and taught to 'fear' the law. The entire stock-in-trade of the London 'comic' papers is the publication of pictorial and literary libels upon our countrymen of the vilest and most atrocious character. We could fill pages with specimens of such 'seditious stuff' from English journals as would be calculated to create the most bitter dissensions between our countrymen and Englishmen, and which have almost world-wide circulation. In fact, English journals are the best possible 'Fenian' organs." After quoting some extracts from *Punch*, it says:—"The paper which contains this stuff, falsely and maliciously designed to excite the anger and hatred of Englishmen against Irishmen, has also a cartoon, in which an Irishman is represented as a Caliban, hideous beyond measure, designed so as not to be distinguishable from a gorilla. But such sedition as this is fostered by the English parliament, which condemns an Irish newspaper to confiscation for the publication of even an 'expression' calculated to 'incite to sedition.' English papers are encouraged to heap such insults upon our country; but, as the *Spectator* says, 'No race ever yet forgave insults of this kind,' and most assuredly the Irish race will never forgive them."

THE *Waterford Mail* of the 5th ult. was issued in full mourning, without any leader, but containing the following announcement:—"Death, by violence, on the 4th of April, 1870, after the Act of Union, and by the act of the British Parliament, the Liberty of the Press in Ireland."

WELLS.—Mr. George Bishop (late of the *West Sussex Gazette* staff) has become the proprietor of the *Wells Journal*, a weekly county newspaper. He has made considerable improvement in its appearance; and in his opening address to its readers announces that the paper will in future be thoroughly independent in politics.

"BUDGET" NIGHT.—Walking down the Strand after leaving the House, might be noticed very evident signs of the excitement of a Budget night. The newspaper boys were at once selling their papers and their customers, for although the evening papers professed to give "the Budget," the reports were provokingly out short at the most interesting portion of the speech. A person who waited at the *Globe* office for the entire speech tells us the excitement in the neighbourhood of that office was intense. A crowd waited round the office for an hour or more; and when the special edition was produced at half-past nine the scramble to get copies was fierce and protracted.—*Worcestershire Advertiser*.

FLYING RUMOURS.—The *Worcestershire Advertiser* makes the following frank avowal, which in the present race for news is fully justified:—"It would be a curious enquiry, how much of each week's news is made up of rumours which are contradicted the following week. That this kind of intelligence should occupy so large a space in our columns is a very unsatisfactory state of things, but it would be even more unsatisfactory to our readers if we were to exclude all rumours which appeared to us incredible. We have no choice, therefore, but to make public what we hear, leaving our readers to believe or not, as they may think fit."

MR. ZERAL COLBURN, C.E., the original editor of *Engineering*, has relinquished his position and disposed of his share in the paper.

DULNESS OF THE METROPOLITAN DAILY PRESS.—"What in the world," the *Spectator* feels tempted to cry every morning, "has come to the daily papers?" The journalists will say it is because the statesmen are dull; and that is true, "but it does not account for the dreadful sameness which has recently beset everybody—for the total absence of even difference of opinion. Three-fourths of the papers talk diluted Gladstone, and the remaining fourth Lord John Manners without the dilution, which in his case might be beneficial. In spite of proverbs, milk-and-water, especially if well iced, is a much more palatable draught than milk. The last trace of individualism, bad or good, seems to have vanished, or survives only in the touch of acid which somebody on the *Pall Mall Gazette* contrives to put into the milk, making thereby a sort of whey, and the papers are become as tiresome as sermons. One has to read the provincial leaders to be sure that such a thing as an independent opinion exists in the United Kingdom, while for a touch of humour we must cross the Channel, or for a bit of eloquence listen to some Nationalist paper denouncing the Coercion Bill. It is wind, most of it, that those Irishmen give us; but it does rush, does suggest what a tornado might be, and the stuff in the London papers suggests nothing but the bellows."

THE ALLEGED "SOP" TO "THE TIMES."—Of course Mr. Lowe and Mr. Gladstone are both "honourable men," but really the way in which the last tax on knowledge—the stamp duty on newspapers—is repealed, looks uncommonly like a bribe to the *Times*, and as such it is considered in many intelligent circles. There was no earthly reason why we should not have in England, as they have in other countries—Belgium, for instance—a halfpenny postage for printed matter; but there was no earthly reason why the weight for which a paper might be sent should be raised from four ounces to six, and the stamp lowered from one penny to one halfpenny, except the plain fact, that by that enlargement the *Times* would get the benefit of the change. The *Times*, however, regards that portion of the budget as an especial benefit to itself, and if the *Times* is still the leading journal, to the same extent the reduction may be said to be a national benefit. But the difficulty about the matter will be the old difficulty, which in times past gave so much trouble—the difficulty of the definition of a newspaper. Clearly the better plan is to allow all printed matter to circulate on the same terms.—*Literary World*.

THE manager of a weekly paper that circulates among the aristocracy has, we understand, lately absconded. His defalcations are upwards of £300, and a warrant has been issued for his apprehension.—*Ibid*.

THE EDITORSHIP OF "LIGHT."—We are authorised to state that there is no truth in the report which attributes the editorship of the evening paper, to be called *Light*, to Mr. John Morley, the present editor of the *Fortnightly Review*.—*Rock*.

THE HALFPENNY POSTAGE.—A halfpenny postage on newspapers and printed matter is at the same time conceded. This is a gain to the newspaper trade and to commercial men generally. The fixing of the halfpenny limit at six ounces must probably be regarded as a sop to the *Times*.—*Financier*.

A NEW Birmingham daily paper is to appear in September. Mr. George Dawson is to edit it, and there is a capital, they say, of £30,000 subscribed. The politics will be Liberal in the broadest sense of the term.

A SLIGHT ERRATUM.—A west country reporter having occasion to refer to the well-known passage in one of Mr. Gladstone's finest speeches: "We have burned our boats and destroyed our bridges," announced that the Premier informed the House that he had burned his coats and destroyed his breeches.

THREATENING AN EDITOR.—Mr. Richard Adams, editor of the *Southern Reporter*, published in Cork, has received a letter in which his life is threatened, for having "maligned and libelled his countrymen" in the paper for which he writes. The *Reporter* is a Liberal and Roman Catholic organ, and has from time to time denounced the Fenian organisation. The police are endeavouring to sift this matter, but it is not supposed that the writer will be discovered.

A NEW "ILLUSTRATED" IN THE NORTH.—The *Durham County Advertiser* says an illustrated newspaper for the Northern counties is about to be started.

GRAPHIC AMERICA.—The proprietors of the *Graphic* have conceived an idea so spirited as to deserve, and therefore, to have half achieved success—it is, to illustrate America in the fullest sense of the word. Their design is simply and plainly told in the following sentences. "The United States have been thoroughly explored by geographers, naturalists, and geologists. The Great Republic has formed the theme for a whole library of books, grave and gay, from a crowd of tourists, politicians, and 'special correspondents,' eminent and obscure, learned and unlearned, prejudiced and impartial; yet the remarkable fact remains that America has been hitherto almost entirely neglected by our foremost artists, and that it is virtually a *terra incognita* as regards any pictorial exposition of the social aspect of the country, or of the manners and customs and the curious types of human character to be found among its varied and busy population. A few eminent English landscape painters have paid furtive visits to the States; and two famous Transatlantic *paysagistes*, Messrs. Church and Bierstadt, have sent hither their impressions of Niagara and of the Rocky Mountains; but there our knowledge of 'Graphic America' comes to a standstill. We are left in the dark as to the real characteristics of American steamboats, railway cars, hotels, parks, promenades, cafés, and private dwellings; and up to this moment we have had but rare and barren opportunities of seeing the American depicted in his habit as he lives, and of studying him in the chameleon forms of character he assumes." The proprietors of this enterprising and successful journal have commissioned Mr. A. B. Houghton, the rising and gifted artist and book illustrator, and he is now on his way from the Strand to San Francisco, by the Union Pacific route, calling at Liverpool and New York, and visiting the Shakers at Lebanon and the Mormons at Great Salt Lake city, and returning home through the Southern States. The proprietors of *The Graphic* have supplied him with the necessary quantity of wood blocks, on which his drawings will be executed *proprio manu*; and thus, every touch engraved will be an exact *fac-simile* of the draughtsman's original production."

AN INVENTIVE GENIUS.—It was in the autumn, a dead season for the London Press, when the political and fashionable and professional classes are "out of town." A reporter, who had been called to the bar, but had never been employed there by any one, not finding any news, resolved to make it. He invented a dreadful murder, attended with romantic and mysterious circumstances, and described it, very fully, as having taken place in a remote suburban district, for which he manufactured a Saxon name. He manifested it to all the daily papers, only one of which accepted it. He supplied additional details; gave evidence at the inquest before an imaginary coroner; published a verdict of "Wilful murder against some person or persons unknown;" described the funeral of the victim; lengthily and legally went into conjectures as to the motive for the crime and the identity of the murderer, complimenting the police, who, he stated, were on his track. He had "a clear stage" for some ten days, until the Home Secretary thought it his duty to enquire into the case, and soon discovered that it was a fiction from first to last. The newspaper was laughed at, but the imaginative reporter, who had done nothing for which the law could punish him, was allowed to escape. Years passed by, and the next time I heard of him he was attorney-general in one of the Australian colonies, finally rising to a seat on the bench. I last saw him in 1847, when he visited England on official business, and we had a good laugh over his remarkable "Murder in Essex."—*Dr. Shelton Mackenzie*.

Notes and Queries.

T. B.—The statements in the article referred to are gross exaggerations. We advise you not to reproduce it, or if you *will* do so, suppress the names. If you continue of your present mind, and persist in printing it, retain some eminent counsel at once, for you will be sure to want them.

J. M. P.—We cannot go into matters beyond the pale of journalism.

"CAN IT BE TRUE?"—We can only reply, "It is!"

Obituary.

BANKS, WILLIAM, commercial editor of the *Birmingham Daily Post*, and Birmingham Correspondent of the *Daily News*, aged 56.

HEAD, S. K., formerly connected with the *Boston Press*, at Savannah, March 18th.

JACOBSEN, P. D., editor and publisher of the *Kamerad*, the organ of the Schleswig Holstein combatants, at Hamburg.

JACOTET, CONSTANTIN, the founder and director of the French journal *l'Italie*, of Florence, at Florence.

MILLER, Rev. TOBIAS W., one of the editors of the *Portsmouth Chronicle*, (new Hampshire, U. S.), March 31st, aged 68.

MEYER, Dr. EDWARD, formerly editor of the *Berliner Reform*, and latterly editor of *Danischer Zeitung*, at Berlin.

PROWSE, W. J., journalist, at Nice, April 17th.

WAKEMAN, GEORGE, long engaged as a writer for the *Ledger*, *World*, and *Galaxy*, of New York, and stenographer of the state senate, March 31st.

WALLIS, RICHARD, editor and proprietor of the *Hull Packet* and *Hull Times*, recently, aged 49.

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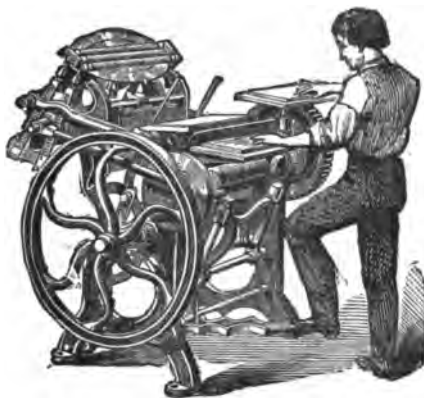
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31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

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Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

Messrs. Cropper and Co., Nottingham.

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We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
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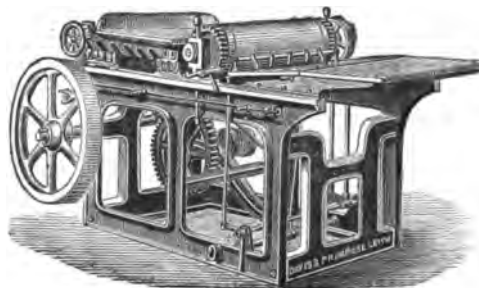


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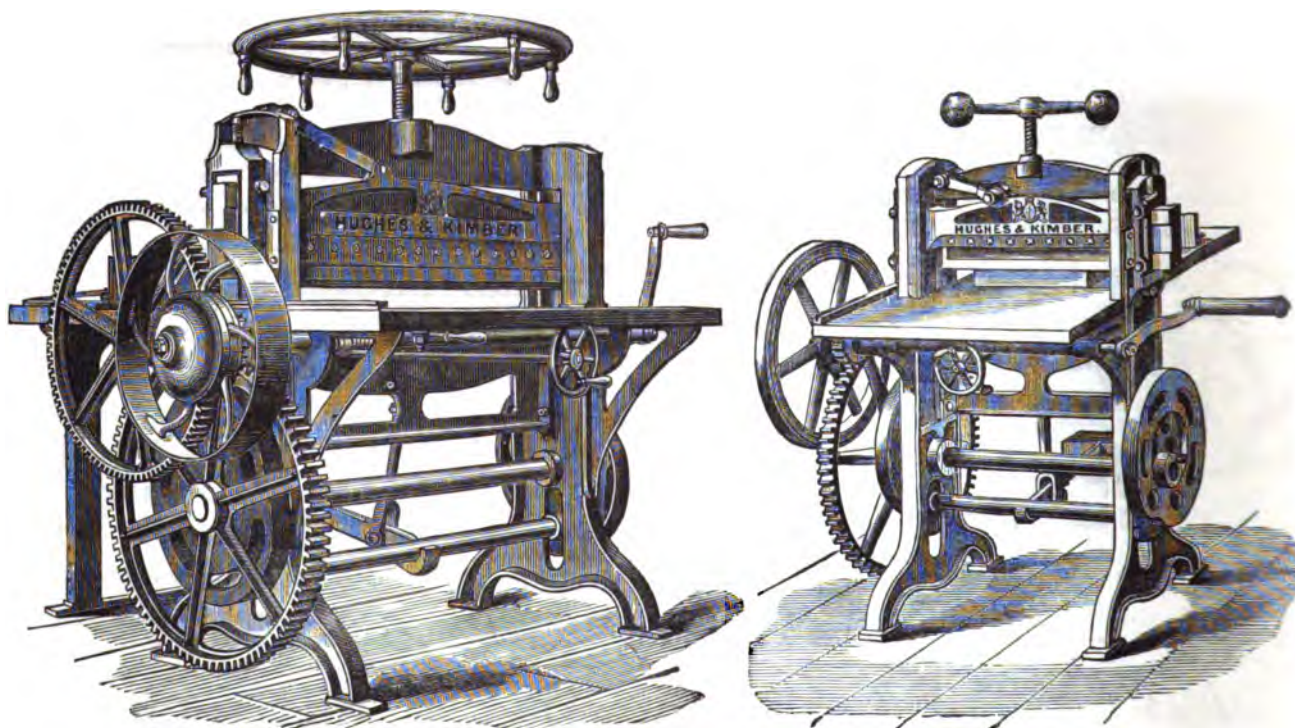
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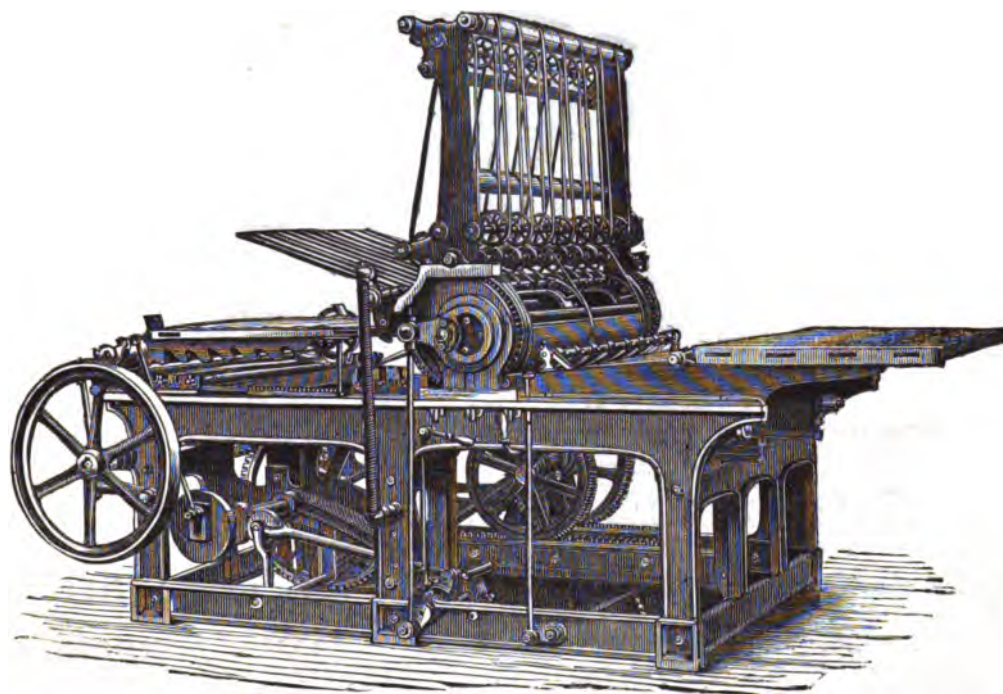


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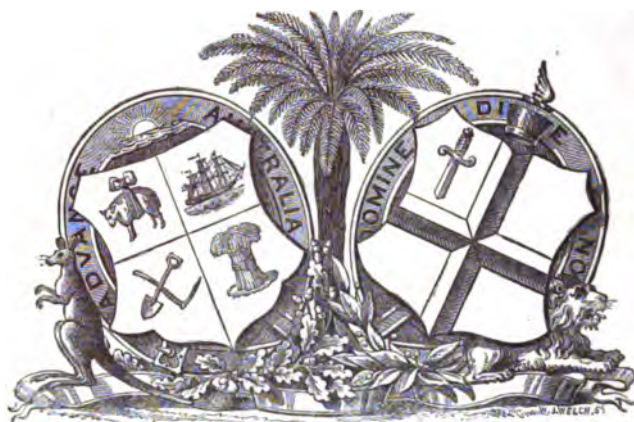
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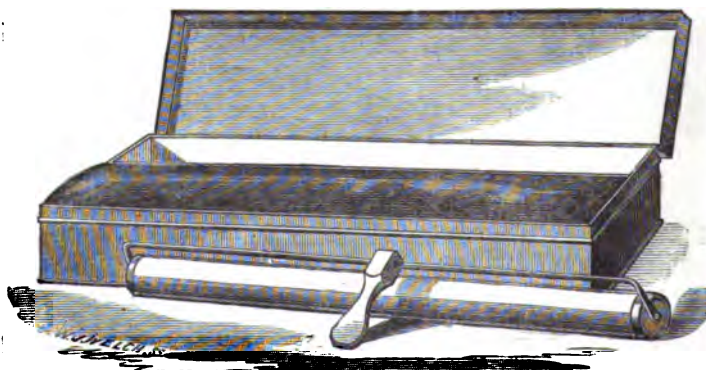
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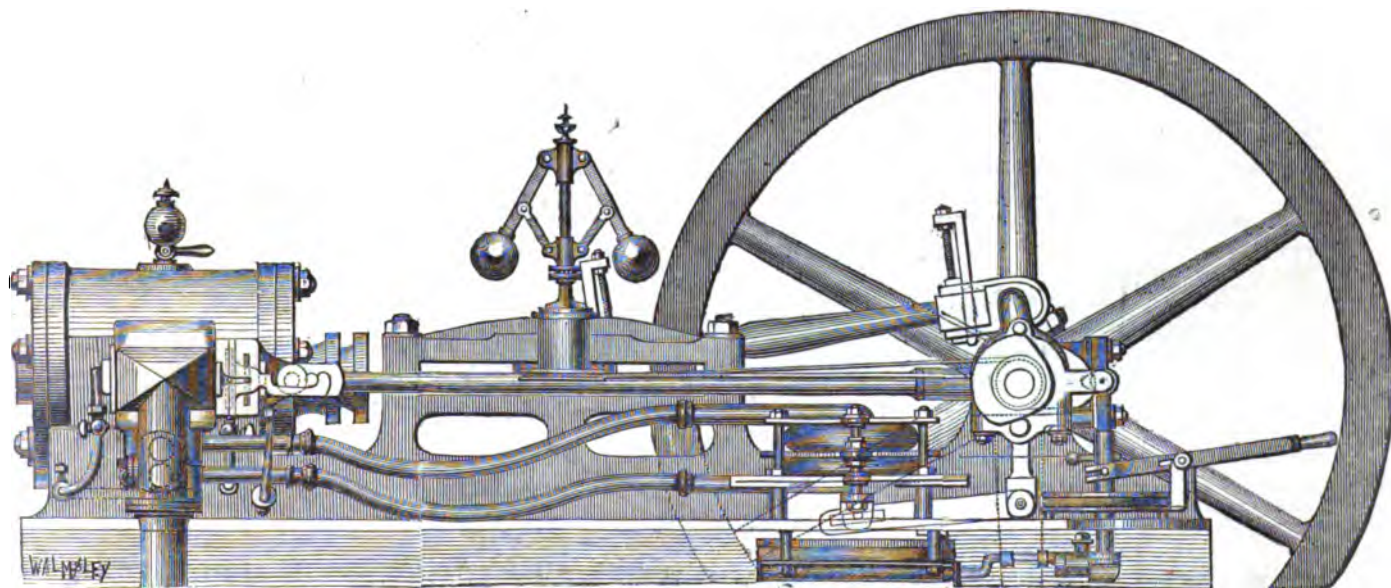
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A CORRESPONDENT in our last number found fault—and we think very just and legitimate fault—with the aggressive and insulting style in which a writer in the “*Britannia*” magazine thought proper to speak of a class of newspaper writers whom he chose to name under a clumsily-coined word of his own mint, as “*Literatuli*.” Bearing the impress of a soured and disappointed spirit, *that* article was simply exaggerated—in many respects, false—and in all respects unnecessarily offensive. But even *then*, it left an impression behind that the writer, through a fancied necessity of being savage and of wielding a scalping knife or tomahawk, was not wrong in his conclusions in *every* respect. If his style had been more temperate and less for effect, it would have carried more weight. His *third* chapter on “*The Critic*” shows that, behind a mighty deal of exaggeration (perhaps necessary for the readers he writes for), there is not wanting a keen sense of discernment, and as honest a regard for truth as there is a thorough detestation of humbug and imposture.

In his cynical way he begins:—

“The ordinary journalist is often as ill-informed and uneducated a creature as it is possible to meet with. But you will find that even he has some little acquaintance with one or two subjects that are supposed to constitute his *specialité*. No editor would think of deputing the task of writing a leading article on the relations of England with America during the late war, or on the Schleswig-Holstein difficulty, to one who knew nothing of international law. Yet the same editor would not have the slightest hesitation in entrusting to the least practised and most modestly gifted of his contributors the volume which should prove the greatest tax upon the judgment and attainments of the reviewer. It is the generally received opinion that any one can be a critic.”

But, as he proceeds with his denunciation, we cannot deny that he has got a rough hold of the hem of the garment of truth—let us hope he will not tear off the skirts:—

“An uninitiated public may fancy, when it reads in print a panegyric upon the last production of this publisher, or an envenomed attack upon the last venture of that, the criticism is the impartial expression of the conscientiously entertained opinions of the writer. Now we do not say that it never is, but we do say that it very rarely is; we do say that the views propounded and the verdict arrived at, are usually the result of motives which are not apparent, and which are interested; we do say that there are wheels within wheels, of which the public know nothing; that there are considerations—personal, private, and professional—known to the writer, and those with whom he is acting in concert only, which impel to praise where he should blame, or blame where he should praise; and we do say, moreover, that as literature is constituted at present, it is impossible but that these things should be. Having said thus much, we will now proceed to verify our assertion.”

“The peculiar connections which exist between author and publisher are absolutely fatal, in a majority of instances, to anything like integrity of criticism. We think that the *Pall Mall Gazette*, ere it had enlarged its size and lost its reputation, was the first to draw attention to the dealings between these two influential classes of beings, and to point out what the inevitable results must be. A writer gets an established position on a daily or weekly

Journal of acknowledged weight and power, as literary reviewer. He knows the opportunities of his situation, and he takes courage of his opportunities. Straightway walks forth our modern Aristarchus to the establishment of the particular Sostus whom he affects. Either this speculator and trafficker in manuscripts and books knows already the position which his caller enjoys, or is very quickly brought to know it, and to see how nearly it concerns him. The reviewer has a book to suggest. Say the ‘*Private Life of Confucius*,’ or the ‘*Bohhood of Zoroaster*.’ An excellent idea, thinks Sostus. The bargain is concluded as soon as it is propounded. Meanwhile our reviewer would like a sum on account. The publisher takes his cheque-book, and writes fifty, and Aristarchus leaves the parlour. What to do? To commence his ‘*Zoroaster*’ or ‘*Confucius*?’ Assuredly not. He has about as much intention of busying himself with the life and career of these demi-gods, as he has of proceeding post-haste to Spain to offer himself for the vacant crown. The mention of the names,—what was it but a ‘blind?’”

Thus writes this ruthless anatomist of motives—this scornful betrayer of “the wheels within wheels,” and of the occult influences of metropolitan criticism—this vituperator of literary cliquism and venal power.

For his information we will relate an anecdote, for the truth of which we vouch. Years—many years ago, an unknown lady sold, for a moderate sum, a novel of her own composition to an unknown publisher. A reviewer for a leading London journal was “sweet,” as the term goes, upon this unknown authoress, and, to the astonishment of the initiated, four columns of a leading paper were given up to a most flattering review of the book. We met the hitherto obscure publisher on the same day. “Have you seen the review in the —?” he asked us, rubbing his hands in a fit of elation bordering on madness. “It is as good as a thousand pounds in my pocket!” The work went through edition after edition, and the fame of the authoress and the fortune of the publisher were made.

Of so much of our knowledge and experience we make a present to the writer in the “*Britannia*,” but we tell him that the “jobbery” of which he complains is confined to the metropolis. Beyond the sphere of cliquism and undue influence—out of the sphere of the great publishing houses’ attraction, the provincial critic, as a rule, speaks according to his own lights; and, if they are not the reflected lights of his London contemporaries, so much the better.

The *Daily News* and *Judy* so bravely threw off the shackles of conventional criticism in speaking of the last work of the “great author” that we have yet some hopes even of the independence of the critics of the London Press.

We are rather forced into these remarks because the action of the London critics, with those two or more honourable exceptions, is so offensively illustrative of our precise meaning. Before the first instalment of the latest work of our great novelist was in the hands of the general public, these (we will not use so harsh a word as servile—let us mildly say conventional) reviewers rushed into hysterical ecstasies about an “opening” which certainly had nothing in it to justify their rhapsodies. Had they not deemed it necessary to come out so excitedly *then*, they might have found something in the second part to justify all the powers of language at their command, but their premature praise will, we should opine, be as lightly esteemed by such a man as Mr. Dickens, as it will go heavily against them when men of sense come to weigh the opinions of the literary critics (!) of the London Press.

Possibly, *now* that the wondrous talents of the writer are being developed with an unexpected vigour that takes us back to his first inspirations, these small fry, to whom the “*Britannia*” may be perfectly justified in applying the ugly word “*Literatuli*,” will endeavour to be amusing by picking little faults in what—we do not say they have not the sense, but they do not give them—

selves the time or thought to write about carefully and cautiously (as in an honest regard to their assumed position between author and public they ought to do—or not pretend to the title). *Nous verrons*; but we predict it. Their "rash courses" may lead up to a higher question—Is literary criticism (of this order) a legitimate function of general journalism? Unless it is clearly *sans peur et sans reproche*, we unhesitatingly cast in with the "Noes."

SOME regret has been expressed that two gentlemen, who, as editors of London comic papers, are in some sense connected with journalism, have contributed to a gratis pamphlet and price list of an advertising tailor in Shoreditch, and have allowed their names to be freely advertised as joint contributors with the tailor himself or his son. It is therefore no secret that the two persons are Mr. Hood, of *Fun*, and Mr. Ross, of *Judy*. We presume that the tailor's solid honorarium was put in one scale and the absurd regard to professional etiquette in the other, and the former proved the heaviest. But this is not the first time the question of good taste has been raised by similar apparently derogatory engagements. We have seen a pamphlet-description of a drapery establishment at Somers Town, avowedly written by Mr. Sala, and we believe something of a similar kind was done by one of the Mayhews—so that there is no lack of precedents, though we must confess our distaste for them. We hope our literary men will not descend to a custom not unknown in America, but at present, we are happy to say, very rare in this country. Surely legitimate literature has higher rewards for men who have to a certain extent achieved a position. Mr. Hood acted with so much promptitude and credit with respect to a recent engagement, and Mr. Ross has displayed so much ability in the management of *Judy*, that we cannot but join in the regret expressed by other papers that their names should have been so freely handled as in the following almost stereotyped advertisement:—

FOUR AUTHORS of HIGH REPUTE, Messrs. TOM HOOD, CHAS. H. ROSS, ARTHUR LYNES, and PHILIP RICHARDS, have each contributed an original humorous story to FUN AND FASHION—A. LYNES and SON'S new book for the spring. And the opinions of the Press upon the subject are well worthy of the notice of those who study the curiosities of literature. Especially severe upon the authors of the book in general, and Mr. Tom Hood in particular, is the "Hornet," a London publication. The writer in this facetious periodical informs us that "tailors as a rule have a liking for the pen." This we might bear, considering that the pen is mightier than the sword; but the critic goes on to say that "where a Shoreditch tailor advertises that he has secured the services of the editors of 'Fun' and 'Judy,' two of our comic journalists, I confess I am compelled to ask, when will this abominable barter cease?" The writer is evidently Liberal in politics if not in notions; for he tells us that "I can in the present emergency excuse anything from avowed Conservatives," which, we are sure, is very kind and indulgent, and more than we should have expected from so talented and impartial a critic. On the other hand, the "Morning Advertiser" in reviewing the book says:—"The amusing ingenuity of advertising has hardly ever received a more happy illustration than in a handsomely printed publication bearing the above title. It contains a humorous romance, 'Wrong Side Upwards,' by Tom Hood; a 'Comic Love Story, which ought to make you cry,' by Charles H. Ross; 'A Set of Quadrilles: a Serio-comic Story of the Period,' by Arthur Lynes; and 'The Awful Ending of the Fancy Barber,' by Philip Richards. These are the merry accompaniments to a sheet of illustrations of fashionable garments, manufactured by A. Lynes and Son, of Shoreditch, thus justifying the title of 'Fun and Fashion' and of 'Fiction and Fact,' the 'fun' being contributed by the worthy writers above enumerated, the 'fact' by the eminent merchant tailors who issue this comic perennial. The reader, we opine, after skimming over the literature, will be in a more genial humour to study the fashions and choose his garments from the variety of styles and prices which solicit his attention in the appendix."

The esteemed opinion of the "Tomahawk" varies greatly from that of its contemporary. In this journal we are told that "the editor of 'Fun' bears a historical name—his father wrote one of the most beautiful poems in the language, 'The Song of the Shirt'—is this the reason why he (that father's son) has shared the pages of a clothier's pamphlet with descriptions of 'Our Twelve Shilling Trousers,' and explanations of 'Our System of Business'?"—has become the novelist of 'Tourist Suite,' the romancer of 'Patent Paletots'? We can quite understand that Mr. Hood, the Younger, finds the clever articles of Mr. Lynes, jun., and the instructive price lists of Mr. Lynes, sen., more congenial

to his mind than the tiresome twaddle of 'Fun.' We hail with much satisfaction his admission of the proper place he should fill in English literature, side by side with the poet of Moses and the poet Close. Posterity will link his name with the glories of 'The Royal Belt Suit, unsurpassed for elegance and taste—as advertised.' Fame will proclaim his merits to the world in conjunction with the beauties of 'the Kensington Frock Coat, 11. to 21., which (to quote Mr. Lynes) well deserves the name of King of Coats.'" After this the critic quotes some portions of Mr. Arthur Lynes's story, which he is kind enough to designate "the gem of the brochure," and concludes by telling us that "the work is neatly got up, and contains, besides the stories of Messrs. A. Lynes and Tom Hood, a very charming plate of the Spring Fashions."

After all, it is simply a matter of taste, in which Mr. Hood has as much right to entertain his opinion as we have to ours. Many years ago an author, who rose subsequently to a pinnacle of fame, to which we trust that Messrs. Hood and Ross may aspire, if not attain, wrote for a weekly paper an article called "Roland of Rolandstein," which had a very strong scent of "Macassar" about it. It is needless to say that it does not appear among the distinguished writer's "Collected Works," but it will be found in the files of the *Britannia* newspaper, if any exist, over the initials "M.A.T.," if we are not greatly mistaken. A very high precedent this;—but, none the less, *not* one worth following, even by lesser lights

THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PRESS.

VII.—THE PARLIAMENTARY REPORTER.

"THE gallery in which the reporters sit has now become a fourth estate of the realm. The publication of debates, a practice which seemed to the most Liberal statesman of the old school full of danger to the safeguards of public liberty, is now regarded by many persons as a safeguard tantamount, and more than tantamount, to all the rest together." Thus wrote Macaulay in his "Essay on Hallam's Constitutional History." The gallery is the object of the ambition of every reporter who feels a pride in his vocation. It is the day dream of his earlier career, which, when realised, is as little satisfactory as "day dreams" usually are. Though the seat may be hard, the work heavy and full of responsibility, it is nevertheless a high honour to be selected to record the deliberations of the greatest free assembly in the world. The reporter who for the first time passes within those swing glass doors and emerges from the back entrance into the full but subdued light of the reporters' gallery, feels very much as if he would like the earth to open and swallow him up. He has to pass through a trying ordeal, in which his previous experience will not help him much. He gazes around him. On either side he sees a few M.P.s lolling in the members' gallery. Immediately before him is the strangers' gallery, the front seat of which is kept for distinguished visitors. The three or four next seats are kept for those who have the privilege of the speaker's gallery, and higher up is the strangers' gallery, where one can see little but hear less. Below is the speaker's chair. It is, however, invisible to the reporter. On his right hand sit the members of the Government, and on the left the Opposition. They are divided by the clerk's table, on which reposes the solemn mace and the statutes at large. Below the gangway there are parliamentary representatives lounging and lolling in every conceivable attitude, with their hats on. Members are presenting petitions, and their voices as they announce the prayers of the memorialists come upwards in a mumble-jumble kind of tone, which is anything but reassuring to the aspirant. The reporters on duty are chatting to each other. There is a murmur overhead, where the ladies are hidden in their gilt cage, where they are heard, not seen. It is trying work to report what you hear amid this confusion of half articulate sounds, and harder still to condense it all into terse sensible sentences. When the business of the House fairly commences, and a speaker of any importance is "on his legs," the murmurs cease for a time and the reporter's energies are strained to catch every word. The old *habitué* of the gallery does not do this; experience has taught him that a brief summary of all the speaker has to say will be sufficient even for the Thunderer and

so he takes his ease, until his turn is ended, or there arises a foe man worthy of his pen. As the night progresses the debate becomes interesting, reporters succeed reporters at less frequent intervals, pens and pencils fly rapidly over the paper until the time arrives for transcription, and the gallery reporter finds himself face to face with his real work of condensation or of verbatim copying. Either tests his power to the utmost on the first night, for his copy will be eagerly scanned, and compared in the morning, not only by his chief, but by his compeers and comrades. A man must be indeed incapable or miserably unfortunate if he fails utterly the first night, but, under any circumstances, when the House rises he goes home in a dream.

The parliamentary reporter, when tried and successful, has an arduous task daily before him. If he is sent to the House of Lords he can barely hear the most deliberate speaker who wishes to be heard, and he has to contend against the half articulated sentences of the careless orator, who is careless of the gallery, and heedless of being reported at all. Yet, amidst all, he must be on the watch for valuable figures or choice quotations. He will note the authorities referred to, and endeavour to preserve a consistent outline of the principal argument of each speaker. No slip-slop work will be tolerated, and hence the salaries paid are larger, in proportion of the work done, than on the provincial Press.

It is the pride of the gallery to recount the many notabilities who have graduated there. Judges and chancellors are numbered by the score, and as for editors and literary men, their names are legion, for the gallery is looked upon as but the ladder of fame, a mere halting place on the road to fortune. Many a briefless barrister has had reason to bless both the experience and the pittance he gained in this region of free discussion and hard work. The gallery is occasionally recruited from this class now, but there has arisen a profession of reporters during the past fifteen years, composed of men who have worked their way through the ranks of country journals, and marched to London to fill up the constantly thinned ranks of the parliamentary corps. If he displays marked ability, he is sure of an engagement whilst he cares to hold it, but there are so many failures, so many who barely rise to the level of mediocrity, that we do not wonder at their disappearance from the parliamentary gallery.

The "gallery" reporter is the London correspondent, too, of many a country provincial, and if he is a man of observation he supplies a piquant letter, full of the gossip of the lobbies as well as the literary and artistic chit-chat of the clubs of Bohemia. Frequently, too, he is a contributor to the serial literature of the day. He may possibly write a leader for one of the weeklies, or edit one of the class journals, in addition to his other duties. Sometimes he is on the regular staff of his newspaper, and not simply engaged for the session, and if so he sees a wider sphere than would otherwise be the case. He goes to the lord mayor's banquet, or to the great demonstrations in the provinces. Fishmongers' Hall knows his footstep, and when the prime minister addresses his constituents he is there also. "Our own correspondent," and our "special commissioner," is selected from the gallery staff as a rule, and there have been instances where the gallery hand has lost caste by becoming a member himself.

Turning from the reporter to the gallery itself, we find that the accommodation now made is considerably larger than in years past, and if the ladies could be removed to some other locality, the gallery would be all that could be desired in the present House of Commons. The accommodation for the gentlemen of the Press is largely increased, and the attendants most obliging. They take down the little notes to the speaker, who has just been quoting some unknown authority, and they bring back the literal quotation and the author from the obliging member. It is as difficult to catch accurately figures as quotations, and the chancellor of the exchequer does not refuse to give his data to the laborious toilers of the pen up stairs. The reporters engaged on the smaller dailies or on the telegraph staff can afford to despise these niceties of detail, for clearness of expression, a well condensed summary, free from all redundant verbiage, is what is required of them. They are, however, keenly on the alert to see that no material point escapes them. They know that half the population depend on them for all they will read of the parlia-

mentary debates. In distant towns they will know in a few minutes what is passing within the walls of St. Stephens. Now Edinburgh knows what took place during the night in parliament as soon or sooner than London. Well might Lord Palmerston say, that "Nowadays, so marvellous is the ability, and so wonderful the rapidity, with which reporters take down what men say, that if speakers are not very careful, the reporters take down what they had much better not have said." * * * Now it is quite marvellous to see the accuracy with which the debates in the House of Commons are reported. When the speeches are such as are calculated to attract attention, they are reported word for word as they are uttered, and how it is possible for the human hand to follow the voice with such rapidity and such exactness, I am at a loss to conceive." Yet this is rightly done, and done well, by the parliamentary reporter in the gallery.

NEWSPAPER BIRTHS OF THE PAST YEAR.

By MR. CARP.

AND has it indeed come to this with Mr. Carp?—Well, it seems as if it had!—Mr. Carp, who was allowed to announce himself in the second number of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* as on the staff, as special Press critic—who was, two or three months afterwards, accorded a "Mr. Carp's Page;" but whose criticisms, it was hinted, were too querulous and "quapitious" for future admission; and who found himself superseded by ANOTHER! The readers of the "N. P." will perhaps remember, that on that occasion Mr. Carp publicly announced that he was "not proud," and accepted "the situation." The fall from Head Critic to Bone Picker is great, but Mr. Carp is not bruised in body or spirit by it. The gentlemen who "do" the reviews of "Mitchell's," and "Rowell's" Directories feel that their articles are not complete without Mr. Carp's manipulation, and they condescendingly throw them out for him to make the most of. He can find a few bits left on them, he dares say: in fact, there were lumps of fat left on "Rowell's"—let him see what he can get out of—"Mitchell" for 1870.

Well, there are the births—and they are an interesting study; and, if Mr. Carp were not the "Mrs. Gamp" who was called in for the occasion, he may be allowed to be the "Mrs. Harris" to relate them.

First there comes the *Academy*, the offspring of Minerva as it is in Albemarle Street, anxiously hoped for, long desired, and heartily welcomed, jumping at once into vigorous growth; a strong, healthy, and promising child—an infant Hercules.

Then a young *Architect*, of which I know nothing, but hope he will grow up to be a genius.

Asiatic.—Ditto.

Bell's London News.—A bantling for which I hope the best; but infancy is subject to violent convulsions, and without strength in the back, seldom survives them. I fancy the bantling is already dead.

Church Herald.—A large family already—it would be a mercy if some of them died of measles.

Civilian, with its first breath, considerably says it will not be "furiously partisan!" Thanks! No screaming!

Clapham Observer.—Precious little dear! we have had some of the Clapham stock before now, and they are eminently—respectable.

Deutsche Post.—Utterances at present simply guttural; but our royal stock, God bless them! being of the same cross, I hope the best from the Anglo-German babe.

Freemason.—Welcome, little "brother."

Graphic.—The phenomenon of the entire year. If it were necessary, I would sacrifice all the other innocents that this one might live.

Holloway Examiner.—Out of my professional rounds.

Kensington News.—Too far west for me. Altogether above me.

Latest News.—Too far east. Altogether below me.

London and Westminster Weekly News.—The offspring of the two great cities ought to be a promising babe, but I haven't seen it yet. Born November 27th.

Nature.—I must except this promising paper from the general sacrifice indicated in the case of the *Graphic*.

North Londoner.—The very best local paper which has yet appeared, but not sufficiently "pushed" to have its merits appreciated.

Primitive Methodist Advocate.—Let us be thankful that there are fatal diseases incidental to infancy. I always wondered why they were ordained, but—

Review.—Insurance companies, in the face of the present reckless competition, are obliged to be lavish of advertisements—hence many newspaper births.

South London Advertiser, and *South London Courier*.—In my wild days I had some student friends in Lant Street, but have known nothing of the Borough since my hair began to turn. They have either gone to their graves themselves ere now, or sent plenty of patients to represent them.

Stoke Newington Advertiser.—Would be much improved by some attention to spelling, and the introduction of a few items of local news.

Vatican.—Oh dear! Ecumenical! My thumbs twitter at the mention of the little Inquisitionist.

Volunteer.—May it have a long and glorious career!

These are the metropolitan births for the year 1869; let us "take stock" of the provinces.

Acton, more metropolitan than provincial, had a paper born to it (not its first, for if I mistake not, one or two of its little ones have gone to a previous limbo) on the 6th of November, and christened it the *Acton Press*.

Mr. Mackie has a sturdy little offshoot of the Warrington family at Altrincham, but the young champion has got a rival, by the name of the *Mid-Cheshire Examiner*. I think "the Mackie" will prove equal to the ugly named new comer, whose "sponsor" is Mr. Butler. The father is not unknown in the district, I believe—his name either begins with Q or R. As there are not many English names with the former initial, I think it must be "R," when I come to think of it. Another of Mr. Mackie's numerous family, located for seven years at Runcorn, has found a rival in the *Runcorn Examiner*. At head quarters Mr. Mackie also found himself confronted with a *Warrington Examiner*, started in April.

On September the 8th, was born unto the town of Barnsley the *Echo*, like its namesake of London, a halfpenny paper.

In July Berwick produced a *Berwickshire News*, price one penny.

I will say nothing more of Birmingham than that the *Illustrated Midland News* came into existence in September, for I have then done enough in honour of the hardware capital, and recorded its taking its position on an equal footing, artistically, with London. Mr. Carp will not trust himself to speak of a paper for which he has no language at his command sufficiently eulogistic.

The *Observer Budget* of Bradford, born August 7th, is simply a weekly prattling of the good sayings of its parent the *Bradford Observer*, which has now arrived at the mature age of 36 years. The *Weekly Telegraph* of the same town, whose birth dates in the same year, bears the same relation to the *Bradford Daily Telegraph*, which is, strange to say, only two years its senior.

The city of the "Merchant Adventurers," who allowed Liverpool to steal a march on them years ago, and obtain an ascendancy which was once their own, has shown symptoms of virility in an evening budding called the *Bristol Daily Review*, at the enterprising price of a halfpenny. Although a September shoot, as it has survived the winter, I expect to see it expand with the growing year. The *Bristol News*, of the same age, is at present amusing its readers with tales, but, as it gets older, will no doubt feed them on stronger stuff.

The "Garden of England," West Kent, produced in the spring month of May and in the old town of Bromley, a *Journal*.

The dear old town of Bury St. Edmonds, which reckons cleanliness akin to godliness, bore Press twins last year—only two months apart. The March issue was the *Bury and Suffolk Standard*, a Church organ and strictly family paper, at threepence, while the May blossom was the *East Anglian Echo*, at half the price; both Conservative in politics.

Mr. Goulden, of the *East Kent Independent* of Canterbury (1867), added to his cares in the first month of the past year the *Canterbury Chronicle*.

Cheltenham acquired a *Chronicle* also, named, if I mistake not, after a defunct paper. It is a threepenny Conservative journal of high pretensions and "blue blood."

Chichester produced in April an *Advertiser*, which she liberally offers gratis to all comers; and Croydon had its little stranger in January, to which it gave the same name of *Advertiser*.

Dalton in Furness, a town in Lancashire containing over 9000 inhabitants, got up a Joint Stock Newspaper Company, which, on August 7th, issued a *Dalton News*—the firstborn of the town.

Eastbourne had already a numerous Press progeny, but a sixth paper was added in the past year, with the name of the *Eastbourne News*.

At the singularly uneuphoniously named town of Heckmondwike in Yorkshire, Mr. Woodhead, of Huddersfield, has had a branch paper for the last two years called the *Reporter*; but it is no longer to enjoy the undivided favour of the Heckmondwicians, a second paper, the *Express*, having started last year.

The *Ipswich Free Lance*, which bounded into the political arena in June, has a mischievous sound, but as it is a three halfpenny paper, and moreover a partly printed London sheet, it is not likely to do much havoc.

Liverpool, with a family of fifteen already, adopted in August a French bantling, *Le Trait d'Union*.

The *Manchester Evening News*, a daily paper, which was established in 1868 and possesses the eccentric feature of not appearing on Saturdays, sent forth a shoot in March called the *Weekly News*, to supply the deficiency.

The *Western Daily Standard*, which started at Plymouth, on March 2nd, died ere it had completed its first year.

Rye is emerging from its long depression, and has garnered forth a *Free Press*, and its more active sister Hythe begat a *Gazette*, on October 22nd.

Sheffield, which has for 15 years possessed a *Daily Telegraph*, has now an *Evening Star*, started in 1869.

The small county of Rutland was till last year without a paper, but the bold little town of Uppingham, with a population of 2000, rescued it from the unenviable distinction, and in November started a *Gazette*. Will the county town follow suit?

The other newspaper births in the English provinces were:—Berkshire, the *Maidenhead Advertiser*; Kent, the *Tonbridge Free Press* (in May), the *Dartford Chronicle* (May), and the *Lewisham Times* (November); Suffolk, the *King's Lynn Weekly Journal* (in August); Hampshire, the *Winchester Herald* (December 11th); Devonshire, the *Honiton Western News* (in July); Herefordshire, the *Ledbury Free Press* (in May); Leicestershire, the *Lutterworth Mercury* (July 15th); Lincolnshire, the *Lincoln Journal* (January 3rd); Wiltshire, the *Salisbury Standard* (September 4th); Staffordshire, the *Walsall Observer* (in January); Lancashire, the *Hulme Advertiser* (in June); Shropshire, the gratis *Shropshire Advertising Circular* (at Oswestry in April), and the *Whitchurch Herald* (in February); Cheshire, the *Staleybridge and Dukinfield Standard* (October 16th); Durham, the *Gateshead Weekly Tribune* (in January); Yorkshire, the *Yorkshire Telegraph* (at York); Northumberland, the *Newcastle Daily Telegraph* (in June), and the *Jarrow Chronicle* (September 4th).

Wales did not do badly during the past year, though she has suffered a serious loss since in the stoppage of her leading daily paper. Cardiff produced a *Western Mail*, published daily; and in the North of the Principality, a national Calvinistic vernacular weekly called *Y Golauad* made its appearance; in Denbighshire, a Conservative *Wrexham Guardian*; and in Flintshire, a Liberal *Mold and Denbigh Chronicle*.

Scotland does not show so well, the only addition to her newspapers being the *Aberdeen Guardian*, a local weekly penny paper of Liberal proclivities.

Ireland sent us in July a *County Wexford Express*, but "Mitchell's Directory" for 1871 will record at least two farther additions to her Press family.

To these announcements, I may perhaps add a gratis advertising sheet issued in the Channel Islands, christened after the place of its birth the *Guernsey Advertiser*.

As, for the nonce, Registrar General of the Press, my return of births for the past year would stand thus:—

	Conservative.	Liberal.	Neutral or Independent.
London.....	2	4	17
England	7	10	31
Wales	0	0	1
Scotland	0	1	0
Ireland.....	0	0	1
Channel Islands	0	0	1
Totals 9	15	51	

Of course, I am only retained to grumble and find fault, but, if I am to be believed at all to possess patriotic feeling, I do sincerely grieve to see so large a proportion of the new comers sheltering themselves under the jesuitical description "Neutral." General readers know what it means—anything or nothing; the initiated understand, too, what it means in the majority of cases—that no enterprise or outlay is to be expected for securing sufficient talent to give any tone or character to what are simply penny sheets of news—some of them stereotyped half sheets from London, with clumsily printed *quasi* reports of local vestry squabbles (amusing to the collector for the amount of typographical errors they display). There are, however, some splendid exceptions, such as the *Illustrated Midland News*, and a dozen or two more that I could name, which simply prove the rule.

Perhaps I have not grumbled enough yet; so to earn my pay, I will ask the compiler of this important, and, I am bold to assert, *interesting* work, why he does not adhere more strictly to the rule of the alphabet. Darlington surely comes before Dartford, or I fancy so; but it is many, many years since I learned my alphabet, and the council of education may have altered it. Dundreary-like, I pass my hand over my forehead, and ask myself whether W or G come first. Of course it must be W, for I find, under the head of "Tonbridge Wells" the *Weekly Express*, an 1862 paper, precedes the *Gazette*, a '55 paper, so that dates have clearly nothing to do with it. But why puzzle my brain about such trifles when the entire work is so good, and so far, I am sure, beyond my power to compile? That is the secret of criticism, don't you know? Law bless you! I have friends who didn't know *c* from *q*, but have pulled Lord Derby's "Homer" into shoddy.

F. C.

THE PROVINCIAL NEWSPAPER SOCIETY.

THE annual dinner of the P. N. S. is always a pleasant affair, and this year it was more than commonly so, for the number of guests was unusually large, and included Mr. Edward Wilson and Mr. Lachlan Mackinnon, proprietors of the *Melbourne Argus*, and Mr. J. O'Brien Saunders, of the *Calcutta Englishman*, who are at present on a visit to this country, and were specially invited. Covers were laid for eighty, and the dinner was served, *à la Russe*, in the grand saloon of the Crystal Palace. The *carte* contained all the delicacies of the season. The table was handsomely decorated with the elegant Louis Philippe plate.

The chair was taken by Mr. C. W. Naylor, of the *Cambridge Chronicle*. The vice-chairmen were Mr. E. Heard, the proprietor of the *West Briton*, Truro, Cornwall, and Mr. J. K. Douglas, of the *North Wales Chronicle*.

The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were duly proposed and honoured. In the course of the subsequent speeches the members were congratulated on the progress which the society had made during the past year. Not only was the list of members increased, but the executive of the society had taken an active part in promoting the Libel Bill, which was unfortunately shelved for the present, but they had directed the attention of the Treasury to the present unsatisfactory state of the registration of newspapers, and the justice of at once cancelling the bonds held by the Stamp Office against libel. The subject of the halfpenny stamp was also mentioned, and there was a pleasant feeling of satisfaction that the subject had been settled on a fair basis. The plan of stamping the wrappers was generally approved of, and a hope was expressed that the details would be so carried out as to facilitate the delivery of newspapers at the latest possible moment.

The failure of the government to successfully conduct the telegraph department was severely commented upon; indeed, this was the topic of the evening. The difficulties which the provincial journals had encountered in consequence of the delay of the government in forwarding the despatches in time for publication, and the necessity which existed for early, accurate, and complete information, was pointed out in forcible language. The government drew a large income from this source, an income which was largely increasing, and in the midst of the difficulties to be encountered, it was satisfactory to know that every exertion was being made to overcome them, and there was reason to hope that ere long the service would be conducted in a perfectly satisfactory manner to all concerned. More than one of the speakers suggested the desirability of the information department of the telegraph service being placed under the control of the journals themselves, in order that the public should get the fullest, the freest, and the most accurate information on all subjects of general interest both at home and abroad.

Mr. Mackinnon returned thanks for the colonial Press, and in the course of his remarks he pointed out that the policy pursued by Lord Granville towards the colonies was one calculated to create bitterness, and he doubted not that the government would one day repent of the conduct pursued towards them.

The energetic manner in which the president, Mr. Naylor, had fulfilled the duties of his office during the past year, was suitably acknowledged. The health of the president elect, Mr. Glover, of Leamington, was also proposed, and sanguine anticipations were indulged in that he would worthily fill the post to which he had been elected. Due honour was also paid to the other officers of the association, and a very pleasant, genial evening was brought to a close.

NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.

THE subscribers and patrons of the Newspaper Press Fund held their seventh anniversary festival at Willis's Rooms on Saturday evening the 14th, under the presidency of Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., who was supported by nearly 150 guests, including Lord Houghton (the president of the fund), the Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Prince Solyman, Prince Kuhr Bahadoor, Viscount St. Lawrence, M.P., Major General Sir W. Codrington, G.C.B., Mr. Newdegate, M.P., Mr. Anthony Trollope, Mr. George Godwin, Mr. Bagwell, M.P., Mr. E. J. Reed (Chief Constructor of the Navy), Colonel Layard, Dr. Deane, Mr. A. P. Arkwright, M.P., Dr. W. H. Russell, M. Arturo Marcoarti, Mr. Haviland-Burke, M.P., Mr. Freake, M.P., Mr. G. B. Gregory, M.P., Mr. M. Arthur, M.P., Mr. Pim, M.P., Mr. Lancaster, M.P., Mr. Gourley, M.P., Mr. Tom Hood, Sir J. N. M'Kenna, Dr. Forbes Winslow, Mr. Edward Levy, Mr. W. R. Greg, Captain Payne, Mr. Lethbridge, Sir W. Mitchell, Mr. Mavrogordato, Very Rev. Monsignor Capel, Mr. Anthony Norris (honorary solicitor to the fund), Mr. Ralph Harrison, Mr. O. Shaw, Mr. Osborne Stock, Mr. Serjeant Cox, Mr. J. Messent, Mr. Hough, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. J. S. Gordon, Mr. W. M. Mitchell (Arundel), Mr. Blumenthal, Dr. O'Connor, Mr. Spicer (Dorchester), Mr. R. J. Wood, Mr. J. Turner, Mr. G. Painter, Mr. Bee, Mr. Le Sage, Mr. Gawtress, &c.

The Chairman gave the usual loyal toasts, Dr. W. W. Russell proposed "The Army and Navy," and the Chairman then came to the toast of the evening, in offering which he said: Your Highness, my Lords and Gentlemen—I have had the honour of being connected for many years in a very humble position with the Press. When I was called upon by your noble president to take the chair this evening I felt that a task of no ordinary difficulty was imposed upon me, but the debt which I owe to the Press is one so large that it appeared to me to be my duty to respond to a request which had been conveyed to me so strongly and so unanimously. I trust I may be forgiven if for a few minutes I refer to the position which the Newspaper Press of England has acquired for itself in the country. A few days ago a noble lord, occupying I believe this very chair, referred to the fact that the men of action were giving way in the influence they exercised over the people of this country to the men of the pen. It is not for me to say whether that be true or not, but I have lived long enough in this world to remember the position the Press occupied some 30 years ago. Since then I have watched a rapid development, which has only been equalled by the development of the country during the same period. There has been a change from the old fashion of travelling by coach, and packhorse, and stage waggon to the mode of travelling by railway, and to the communication of thought by electric telegraph. The Press has well answered the impulse which has been conferred to the country by this rapid means of communication, and by this rapid interchange of thought, and it has acquired a position which exercises an important influence over the future destinies of the country. But if that be so, I am prepared to

contend that the Press represents, not only the floating public opinion, but the educated opinion of the country. I am, perhaps, saying that which others may be prepared to contend when I assert that I believe there is no instance of a successful newspaper which has not carried with it the confidence and has not struck the vein of the feeling and opinion of a large section of the public which supports that newspaper. This may be, and is, perhaps, frequently a source of disappointment to those who desire to instruct and lead public opinion in a direction different from that in which it is inclined to follow: but all records show that any effort to divert the flow of opinion, and to alter the channel in which that stream will run, has proved in the history of journalism wholly unsuccessful. A newspaper may be a little in advance or a little in arrear of public opinion, but to be successful and influential it must be in accord with the tone and the feeling which prevail at the moment in public affairs among those to whom it addresses itself. I venture to say that it is an evidence of no small amount of ability, no small amount of honesty and capacity, that the gentlemen of the Press are able so well to gauge the floating opinion of the day as to be able day by day to represent it, and in their degree to guide and direct it, and that they do guide and direct it, notwithstanding the opinion I have expressed that they cannot alter and precede it, is clear. They are educated and intelligent men, living in an atmosphere which I may venture to say—without any disrespect—is slightly above that in which the mass of our fellow-citizens mix and assist; and the result is we find that they take, on the whole, a more candid, a more impartial, and a more fair view of public events and circumstances than the great mass of the community might, without their aid and assistance, take from time to time. There is one other view which I think may be conceded to the Press of the present day—that, whatever differences of opinion may exist between men who hold different political and religious views, we are arriving at a period when those opinions will be maintained and expressed with perfect courtesy to our opponents, and with due respect to those who differ as widely as it is possible to differ consistently with loyalty to the Crown and to the institutions under which we live. This is a mark of almost wonderful progress, for within the last twenty-five years—at a time when the newspapers were written for the few who called themselves the educated classes—there was an amount of personal abuse and an amount of personal feeling introduced into political literature which we should now consider a disgrace and dishonour. I do not venture to say that this was universal, but it was the case much more frequently than it is the case at the present day. The result, then, of the enormous increase of the circulation of newspapers has been an improvement and an elevation in the tone of the English Press. Any one who ventures to compare the Press of England with the Press of other countries may do so with pride and satisfaction at the influence it exercises in defence of law and order, and in the maintenance of public morals. But if this is the result of the energy of those who may be termed the proprietors and directors of the Press, and of the ability and intellect of those gentlemen who assist in producing the newspaper which we read every morning at our breakfast table, we are yet most of us almost wholly ignorant of the mode by which this wonderful production—the newspaper—is produced and laid upon our tables. The profession of the Press is the only one, I believe, which is almost wholly anonymous. A gentleman may labour from day to day, and from year to year—his ability may be marked, but it is unknown to the public; it is known only in the office of the newspaper, among his *conféres* in the gallery, and among places of resort confined almost entirely to gentlemen of the Press. In the ordinary professions, and in art and science, success makes a man, but in the Press the individual is almost always unknown. There is a time when he emerges into society and is valued as a person who contributes to the intellectual advancement and benefit of the country; but I claim on behalf of this anonymous condition that the gentlemen of the Press themselves shall recognise an *esprit de corps* as a duty they owe to themselves in endeavouring to fortify their class against those circumstances and accidents which afflict and befall all men alike, but to which they themselves are specially liable. The profession which the gentlemen of the Press follow is one which requires great skill, ability, and readiness, and which probably exacts more constant and excessive labour—more fatigue and exhaustion, and is more frequently followed by disaster and misfortune than any other to which it is possible to devote oneself. It is the duty of the members of the Press to maintain to the best of their ability the funds established for the relief of their own profession, but at the same time I recognise on the part of the public at large that duty which we owe to these gentlemen, to whom we are indebted for so much instruction, assistance, and general information, and I therefore appeal to you to give a most hearty support to the fund whose cause I now plead. Believing, as I do, that in the Press are bound up the liberties, opinions, and power of this great country, I have much pleasure in proposing “Prosperity to the Newspaper Press Fund,” coupling with the toast the name of Lord Houghton.

Lord Houghton responded, and in the course of some graceful remarks, acknowledged the skill, capital, and organisation with which the Hon. Chairman disseminated the popular literature of the day. He fully sympathised with all that he had said with regard to the Press. He begged leave to propose to them the “Distinguished Visitors,” coupling with the toast the names of his Highness the Nawab Nasim and M. Arturo Marcoarti, a distinguished member of the Spanish Press.

The Nawab Nasim, in responding, thanked the company very heartily for the kind manner in which the toast had been received, and also thanked the British Press for the kindness and courtesy with which it had ventilated the question of his claims.

M. Arturo Marcoarti also acknowledged the toast.

Mr. George Godwin, F.R.S., proposed “The Health of the Chairman,” which was heartily received.

The Chairman having briefly responded,

Mr. Anthony Trollope proposed “The Houses of Parliament,” coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Newdegate, to which that gentleman responded, and after two or three other toasts had been honoured, the company dispersed.

Messrs. J. Henry Doyle, James Mould, Frederic Ledger, C. V. Boys, and G. Callaghan filled the office of vice-presidents, and Mr. C. H. Scott and Mr. W. Saunders acted as ladies’ stewards.

THE PROVINCIAL NEWSPAPER SOCIETY AND THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

WE refer to the meeting of the Provincial Newspaper Society with feelings of satisfaction, for we cannot forget that in the NEWSPAPER PRESS of September last, when discussing the “Changes Ahead” of the newspaper world, we pointed out that the halfpenny stamp would be most useful if impressed on the “franks” or wrappers of the newspapers. A committee of the Provincial Newspaper Society thought otherwise, and met the Postmaster-General on the subject. He gave the deputation to understand that the Government would not restrict the privileges of newspapers in the least, but would increase them rather than otherwise. On consideration, the officials of the Post Office arrived at the same conclusion as we had done months before, that the only feasible plan would be to supply stamped wrappers from the Post Office, as will be seen from the following letter:—

“General Post Office, London,
“9th May, 1870.

“SIR,

“With reference to the question brought before the Postmaster-General by the deputation of the Provincial Newspaper Society, which attended here on the 27th ult., and to the subsequent discussion with the president and other members of the society, I am directed to acquaint you, for their information, that, after full consideration, it has been decided that the only plan which is free from objection, will be for the department to supply newspaper wrappers bearing a stamp of the value of one halfpenny, which will be obliterated by the officers of the Post Office. But in order to afford every possible facility to the trade, arrangements will be made in those cases in which it is important to newspaper proprietors to post their papers at exceptionally late hours, that they may send blank wrappers to the Post Office during the early part of the day on which the paper is issued, in order that the stamps may be obliterated by the Postmaster, and the wrappers returned to the publishing office.

“I am Sir, your obedient

“Servant,

“JOHN TILLEY.

“W. A. Irvine, Esq.,

“Provincial Newspaper Society.”

On the part of the newspaper Press generally, we can see no objection to this plan, if the Post Office authorities will extend to newspapers, as they now do to private firms, the privilege of using a special die bearing the name of the newspaper using the “frank.”

A still more important meeting has been held during the month, not a word of which has yet reached the public, or even newspaper men, who are most interested. There has been a lurking suspicion that after all the Press Association may have been equally to blame with the Government with regard to the unfortunate break-down of the telegraph system and the news supply during the months of February and March last. Newspaper proprietors thronged to London, full of their grievances, and loaded with reams of useless “fimsy” which they had received at all impossible and useless hours from the association. A clear and explicit statement from Mr. Jaffray of Birmingham showed them, however, that the association had never failed. In spite of the most stupendous difficulties, in spite of the red tapism and inert official obstruction of the Government, the Press Association had done its work and was full of hope for the future.

For a moment let us glance at the work it has done and is doing. It supplies news to 60 daily papers and to 130 proprietors of provincial newspapers, who are shareholders, as well as to an equal number who only subscribe for the news. In addition to this special work, eighty provincial chambers of commerce and public news rooms receive their news supply from the association. There are 100 sporting houses in the kingdom who are regularly posted up in the latest state of the odds, and the results of the races of the day, by the Press Association. There are in addition sixty London clubs, public institutions, and sporting houses, who receive the news supply and sporting intelligence from the same source. A small sprinkling of the London daily, sporting and weekly papers, as well as several on the continent, derive some of their multifarious contents from the offices of the association in Wine Office Court. Indeed, so great is the business done, that the addition of the addresses to the telegrams sent would amount to £3,000 per annum. A system had to be devised to avoid this expense, and to meet the requirements of a class of customers who under the old system paid sums varying from

£10 to £400 per annum. This has been done, and we hear with satisfactory pecuniary results.

The *personnel* of the staff which has done this should be known. Mr. John Lovell is the general manager, Mr. T. W. Green is the City editor, Mr. C. H. Ashley is the sporting editor, and Mr. George Moir Busby has the arrangement of the parliamentary business, with two or three assistant reporters, who occupy not only the vacant seats of the old telegraphic reporters, but the seats of the *Morning Star* as well. The parliamentary business was most difficult to manage, as at first horse expressmen had to be used to convey the copy to Wine Office Court, and from thence to Telegraph Street; now the parliamentary reports are sent direct from Westminster by wire, as in the days of the old company.

In order to be ready for the opening of business, the whole staff, which includes three sub-editors, were kept at work for three weeks, doing the same work as they would have done if the Government had been in possession of the wires. Such is a summary of what the Press Association has done during the three months of its existence. The number of telegrams sent out daily is something enormous; indeed, the figures appear fabulous.

The intimate dependence of the Press Association on the provincial newspapers, and the firm support accorded to the association by the weekly papers, point to the conclusion that at no distant date the P. N. S. will be merged in the newer association, and that the two will become one. This result would have been facilitated had Mr. Irvine continued to hold the office of secretary to both. That office is now vacant, and hence the amalgamation will be delayed for an indefinite period.

DECLINE OF THE METROPOLITAN PRESS.

(From the *Economist*.)

UNLESS we are greatly mistaken—and we have watched the process for many years and have no interest to blind our judgment—a great change is passing over the position of the metropolitan Press. It is decidedly and visibly losing influence, vigour, and circulation. The number of daily papers published in London declines, their proprietors are less energetic, and the regard of the mass of the people for their opinions daily tends to diminish. We are inclined to believe that, apart from accident, the fall of the London Press and the rise of the provincial Press will continue until we see something like the state of things in America, where each journal, however good, finds geographical limits to its circulation, and the journals of the greatest city have no universal influence and only a nominal precedence in the newspaper world. In what way that change will affect the profession we must leave for future discussion; but one of its main results must, we conceive, be to increase the power of journalism in the aggregate while diminishing the power of any individual journal, a change which in England will be a very great one indeed;—and another to make provincial opinion,—the opinion of the great trading cities,—much more influential than that somewhat over-cautious and feeble but acute set of ideas usually described as “London opinion.” There is crudity very often in the opinion of the provinces, but it is masculine and broad, which opinion at present in London certainly is not.

PRESS PRESENTATION.—On the 1st ult., the gentlemen who have for some years been associated with Dr. J. A. Langford on the editorial, reporting, and publishing staff of the *Birmingham Daily Gazette*, presented to him an enduring mark of their appreciation of his many good qualities, in the shape of a choice selection of books, including Mr. J. P. Collier's excellent edition of the works of Spencer, Mrs. Heaton's “History of the Life of Albrecht Durer,” Henry Crabb Robinson's “Diary,” Lecky's “History of Morals in Europe,” and several other treasures of modern literature. The presentation was essentially of a private character. Dr. Langford, whose business connection with the *Gazette* has now ceased, is at present engaged on an historical and descriptive work of considerable local importance, which cannot fail to enhance his existing reputation in this department of literature.—*Illustrated Midland News*.

THE NEWSPAPERS, &c., REPEAL ACT.

(From the *Solicitors' Journal*.)

A GOOD specimen of the result of careless legislation came before the Court of Queen's Bench last week in *Bowden v. Allen*, when the blunders in the Newspapers, &c., Repeal Act, 1869 (32 & 33 Vict. c. 24), became apparent. That statute repeals various enactments of George 3, restraining public meetings, lectures, &c., and so far was a beneficial act, but it also repeals parts of more modern statutes, and amongst them some portions of 6 & 7 Will. 4, c. 76. Amongst the repealed sections of 6 & 7 Will. 4, c. 76, are sections 6, 8, and 13, by which declarations are to be delivered to the Commissioners of Stamps, containing the names, abodes, &c., of the printers, publishers, and proprietors of every newspaper, &c., signed by such printers, publishers, &c., and describing the printing-house, house of publication, and title of the paper. A copy of these declarations is made conclusive evidence, against the persons signing it, of all the matters therein stated; a copy of every paper published has also to be delivered to the Commissioners of Stamps, and the production of a copy of the declaration and of a newspaper bearing the same title as the paper mentioned in the declaration is made sufficient proof of the publication of the paper by the persons signing the declaration. Section 19 also compels any one to answer a bill of discovery filed to assist an action of libel by discovering the printers, publishers, or proprietors, of a newspaper; and the section further provides that such discovery shall not be made use of as evidence or otherwise in any proceeding against the defendant, save only in that proceeding for which the discovery is made.

The Newspapers, &c., Repeal Act, 1869, has repealed these sections, and consequently the old difficulty of proving the publication of a libel in a newspaper provided for by sections 6, 8, and 13, is revived. Section 19, it is true, is re-enacted in the repealing act, but it only meets this difficulty by giving a remedy in equity (necessarily causing delay and expense), in aid of the common law process.

In noticing the Newspapers, &c., Repeal Act, 1869, in the Legislation of the year (13 S. J., 919), we pointed out this consequence of the repeal of 6 & 7 Will. 4, c. 76, and we then said, “If the framers of the act had said not only that defendants should answer a bill of discovery in equity, but should also answer interrogatories in an action of libel, much would have been done. At present a defendant can refuse at law to answer such interrogatories, on the ground that he would expose himself to criminal proceedings; and if so, the plaintiff must go to the Court of Chancery to get the very same questions answered.”

The difficulty which we then anticipated has now occurred in *Bowden v. Allen*, which was an action for a libel in a magazine. The plaintiff administered interrogatories to the defendant asking if he was the publisher of the magazine. The defendant refused to answer, on the ground that he might by answering expose himself to criminal proceedings, and the Court of Queen's Bench held that he was not bound to answer.

The plaintiff must, therefore, either run the risk of failing to prove at the trial that the defendant is the publisher of the magazine, or must incur the delay and expense of a bill in order to procure a discovery to which he is admittedly entitled, but which he cannot obtain in the course of the action, in consequence of the defects of the common law procedure. This is certainly not a satisfactory state of the law, and most people will agree with Brett, J., “That this did seem to him a lamentable state of things. He supposed it was an omission in the last act of parliament, but it was such an omission that the sooner it was rectified by the legislature the better.”

It is to be noticed that at chambers Willes, J., in this case, allowed these interrogatories to be administered, leaving any objection to them to come from the defendant himself on oath. This is carrying very far the rule of practice that the objection that interrogatories are criminating cannot usually be made on the application for leave to administer them, but must come on oath from the party interrogating. The direct and only object of these interrogatories was to compel the defendant to admit that he had published a libel.

THE CHANGES IN THE "PALL MALL GAZETTE."

(From the *Printers' Register*.)

MEN speak, as a rule, the truest things about themselves, and the untruest about their neighbours. Newspapers, on the contrary, aim at truth in other people's affairs, whilst they invariably say the untruest when it becomes necessary to refer to their own. A journal which would shrink from misstatement of a fact or event in its leading columns, habitually publishes untruths about itself, in that it is the largest paper in the world, or has the largest circulation. This is a trait of journalism in England which has, no doubt, occurred to many persons during the last few days. The *Pall Mall Gazette* has undergone another metamorphosis, and for a similar reason to that which rendered necessary the last alteration—abounding success. The addition of news has been so much appreciated by the public that it is to be discontinued! The competition with the morning papers has been such a success that it is to be dropped altogether. In fact, the public wanted another morning paper so badly that—they are not to have one. The notice of this event says:—"The proprietors may be permitted to add that they abandon the publication of the morning journal very unwillingly; and they hope to be believed when they say they do so whilst its circulation is increasing, and not diminishing. Such statements are generally received with incredulity, but this one, at least, is true." We hope the public will not class the announcement with the drapers who manage to enlarge their establishments and increase their profits by the constant reiteration of "In Bankruptcy—Alarming Sacrifice—Must be Cleared Out!" Seriously speaking, however, this recklessness on the part of the *Pall Mall Gazette* is very derogatory to its character, and cannot fail to damage its position. We are further told that—"The publication of the *Pall Mall Gazette* as a morning journal will be discontinued. The preference of the public for the evening edition has been so distinctly manifested by the circulation of the paper, the desire that that edition should resume its original form is so general and so constantly expressed, that the proprietors of the paper hesitate no longer. The morning edition will be discontinued; the evening edition will be printed in its present shape for a few days, while some necessary alterations of machinery are being made, and then it will reappear in its original form." The *Standard* says:—"An esteemed contemporary, held to be peculiarly the representative of 'culture' in Mr. Mathew Arnold's sense of the word, and to rise in some undefinable way into higher regions of thought than those in which most political writers are content to roam, announces that it is about to undergo a metamorphosis. It has already undergone more metamorphoses than one, and has survived them up to the present time, so that we trust the new transformation will not be attended with danger. This hope may be entertained all the more confidently in the present case, because our contemporary now intends to resume the shape in which it first appeared, and to give up any further attempts to 'excur,' as an American would put it, into regions of journalism where it has no proper business."

(From the *Anglo American Times*.)

The *Pall Mall Gazette* has turned a summersault, and got back to its old place as an evening paper, price twopence. All journalists are agreed that the *Pall Mall Gazette* was the best of all the morning papers, yet it failed to maintain a place among them. Why? If the men who make papers are agreed that it was the best, what is the reason that it could only be continued at a loss? The public may answer the question, for we confess we cannot, though a public which prefers the *Telegraph* to the *Pall Mall Gazette* may be too stupid to give a reason for anything it does. What the Press thought of the *Pall Mall* is seen by the fact that no other journal published was so extensively quoted, not even the *Times*, and no paper was more honestly as well as ably written. Yet everyone at the west end of London was sensible of the fact that the *Pall Mall* as a morning journal did not take. People will not lightly change the newspaper to which they are accustomed for any other, however good; and if they get accustomed to a newspaper they resent as an injury their deprivation of it. The *Pall Mall* then offended both feel-

ings when it made the change; for it disappointed those who used to look forward for it in the evening, and it introduced itself where people did not want it, and would not have it. It was like a man who was pleasant company at an entertainment, where he is heartily welcome, leaving that and then thrusting himself on another, where he is regarded as an intruder, and the *Gazette* did what the man would do, if wise, go back. The British public are very averse to change. They regard change as a sign of weakness, a feeling which shakes that plant of slow growth—confidence; and we have no doubt that the *Pall Mall* has neutralised by these antics much of what its great ability would otherwise have gained for it.

Correspondence.

NEWSPAPER HISTORY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

SIR,—I speak of my personal knowledge when I say that the late Mr. C. M. Westmacott, who was, in the year 1840, editor of the London *Argus*, had been long engaged in collecting materials for a History of the Press. Can you or any of your correspondents say what became of them?

Yours, &c.,

W. B.

"PUNCH."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

DEAR SIR,—The article in your last No. on the "Early Days of *Punch*" inspires me with "a happy thought." A periodical that has run a successful career of thirty years—that has numbered among its contributors such men as Thackeray, Dickens, Hood, Douglas Jerrold, and a Beckett—that was "the first edition" of "The Snob Papers," "James's Diary," "Our Baby," "The Song of the Shirt," "The Caudle Lectures," "The Story of a Feather," "The Comic Blackstone," and other contributions which are still in the prime of their existence—that has fostered, and in some cases introduced, the artistic talents of a Doyle, a Leech, a Tenniel, a Keane, a Hablot Browne, and a Dumaaurier (a department in which it has as yet shown no signs of weakness or decay) such a periodical, I say, *has made for itself* a history which thousands would delight in reading. No unnecessary private disclosures need be made—no unnecessary reticence observed; yet how interesting would be "An Autobiography of *Mr. Punch*." And who could do it better than the editor who has been with it from the first?

Yours truly,

OITO.

[The suggestion contained in the last sentence of our correspondent's letter, has just sustained a sad and peremptory veto at the hand of death.—Ed. N. P.]

AMERICAN FASHION.—The editor of the *Leith Herald* having lately criticised the vocal performances of a local amateur named Macallum, was invited by the latter to visit his house, the result of which is thus described in the *Scottish Typographical Circular*:—"He sent for the scribe, got the luckless critic caged, locked the door, and then, says he, 'I'll teach you to write about me in the newspapers!' This educational process consisted of taking the editor by the scruff of the neck; knocking him about; striking him several blows; flinging water over him; putting the editorial hat into a bath, which had evidently been designed for the renovation of the editorial coat—with the editor in it; cutting the editorial side and left arm; tearing a waistcoat; and the lesson was completed by a kick, which passed the editor from the back to the front shop, and a valedictory salutation of the same sort, on the same place, which let him gently into the street. These ten separate acts of assault, the bailie who tried the case punished by a fine of seven-and-six. Cheap! One can thus indulge in the luxury of kicking an 'editor' at the rate of ninepence farthing and a fraction over. Taking two kicks, the customer might have them for eighteenpence!"

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, May 26.

Now that the great question of the Plebiscite is finally settled it may be not altogether without interest to take a retrospective view of the past events, and to show what part the journalists took. And here I cannot but confess that the Opposition Press displayed great energy and activity, regardless of the consequences, in their attempts to obtain a majority, and had created a formidable coalition. It took some little time before they had all made up their minds what side to take themselves and recommend to their readers, and what course to pursue; but when the first excitement had cooled down and been left to clarify itself, the three principal groups may be classified as follows:—

AYES:—*Constitutionnel, Figaro, France, Gaulois, Journal des Débats, Liberté, Moniteur Universel, Opinion Nationale, Parlement, Patrie, Pays, Peuple Français, Presse, and Public;*

NOES:—*Avenir National, Charivari, Citoyen, Cloche, Démocratie, Electeur Libre, Gazette de France, National, Rappel, Réveil, Siècle, and Temps;*

ABSTENTION:—*Centre Gauche, Français, Journal de Paris, Marseillaise, and Histoire.*

When I said above that the Opposition papers displayed great energy "regardless of the consequences," I said so advisedly, as they have had to undergo severe punishments for believing in free discussion. The following is a list of some of the papers seized and prosecuted for overstepping the bounds of prudence, and inciting the people to hatred and contempt of the Government:—The *Rappel* (three different prosecutions), *Siècle*, *Avenir National*, *Réveil*, *Marseillaise* (see below), the *Liberté* of Montpellier, the *Emancipation* of Toulouse, the *Libéral* of Bayonne, the *Contribuable* of Rochefort, the *Feuille du Village* of Mans, the *Doubs* of Besançon, the *Eclairer* of Saint Etienne, the *Ouest* of Angers, the *Avenir* of Auch (three different prosecutions), the *Nord Libre* of Arras, the *National de la Vienne* of Poitiers, the *Progrès de la Côte d'Or* of Dijon, the *Patriote Savoisien* of Chambéry, the *Jura* of Lons le Saulnier, and *La Charge*. The *Marseillaise* was suspended on the 17th inst. for two months. Since the 1st of February, the day of its first appearance, till the day of its suspension, it has been prosecuted so often for its violent language, that the aggregate of its sentences amount to 86½ months' imprisonment, and fines to the tune of 18,000 frs. As no less than sixteen of its editors have been convicted, it gives an average of 5½ months' imprisonment for each. On the 15th inst. Rigault and Millière, both on the editorial staff of the *Marseillaise*, who had been arrested and imprisoned on the charge of being implicated in the alleged plot against the life of the Emperor, were set at liberty after having been in prison for nearly three months. They were, however, obliged to sign a bond binding them to surrender again to the authorities when called on to do so, but this condition is believed to have been imposed to cover the mistake made by the police in arresting them at all, and thus they are deprived of obtaining any redress on the score of false imprisonment.

M. Lissagaray was cited to appear before the Sixth Chamber of Correctional Police, on the charge of inciting soldiers to disobedience and mutiny in an article in his paper bearing his signature. As he did not appear to defend himself, judgment went by default, and he was sentenced in *contumaciam* to twelve months' imprisonment and a fine of 2,000 frs. During the plebiscitary period the same tribunal convicted thirteen speakers at public meetings, all of them more or less connected with the Press, of inciting and seditious language, and they were condemned on the aggregate to 92 months' imprisonment and 2,600 frs. fines. On the 7th inst., the day before the Plebiscite, the *Réveil*, the *Siècle*, and the *Avenir National*, were seized and confiscated for publishing a proclamation by the Emperor when Prince Louis Bonaparte, alleged to have been promulgated by him in the year 1848, but the authenticity of which is denied. On the same day Edmond Tarbé, the chief editor of the *Gaulois*, announced in that journal that he should vote with a resigned "Aye," whilst M. Hector Pessard, the editor of the political

part, declared his intention of abstaining from giving his vote. The *Jura* of Lons-le-Saulnier was seized for having expressed a doubt of the reality of the plot against the life of the Emperor. The *Rappel* had no less than five prosecutions pending at the same time; the first has just been heard and M. Barbaret, the *gérant* of that paper, is convicted and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment. The same journal announces that Victor Hugo has been summoned to appear before the Tribunal of First Instance, on the charge of exciting to hatred and contempt of the Government, in an article signed by him and entitled "Victor Hugo on the Plebiscite," published in the *Rappel* of the 15th inst.

When the Plebiscite was first talked of it was intended to start a temporary paper to be called *Le Plebiscite*, and distribute daily 300,000 copies gratuitously. The arrangements had all been made, M. Millaud, the director of the *Petit Journal*, having undertaken the contract for the publication, and the expenses were to be borne by the Central Conservative Committee. M. Ganesco of *Le Parlement*, who calls himself the inventor of the Plebiscite, had hoped to get the contract, but was disappointed in this as well as another case, for the Council of State decided that it would be illegal for him to take a Government contract, and unseat him as Member of the Departmental Council. The editors of several of the well-affected papers—among others M. Emile de Girardin of the *Liberté*—having made representations on the subject to M. Ollivier, complaining of the unequalled competition to which they would be exposed, the Minister good naturedly abandoned the idea, and quashed at the eleventh hour all the arrangements made.

M. Emile de Girardin, the editor of *La Liberté*, is in high favour again, and a *persona gratissima* at the Tuilleries, as is shown by his appointment to be member of the Senate. *La France* relates that the Empress previously sent for Madame de Girardin, and told her that the Emperor wished to see her husband in the Senate.

La Loi is the name of a new journal of the Courts of Law that has just been started here; it is edited in the Democratic interest by M. Edouard Laferrière, a well-known barrister, and formerly on the editorial staff of the *Rappel*.

A new class paper is about to be published at Bordeaux, in the interests of the wine trade, under the title of *Le Chai Girardin journal des intérêts vinicoles des propriétaires de la Gironde*. It will be conducted by Messrs. J. B. and Raymond Pottier, of Bordeaux. *Apropos* of the wine trade, the following circumstance shows with what caution managers of newspapers should sift the contributions of their penny-a-liners. A short time ago, a paper in the South of France related the particulars of some squabble that had occurred at a wine-shop in a neighbouring village, and the paragraph commenced grandiloquently: "In the village of — there is a *Cabaret* of wretched appearance and suspicious character, &c." The article was copied into two other local papers, and the proprietor of the house in question, considering himself aggrieved, has commenced legal proceedings against all the three journals, claiming from each 3,000 frs. damages.

AVANT COURIER.

A short time ago, there were as many as 420 newspapers and reviews published in Paris. A new journal, entitled *Le petit Palais de Justice*, was started for the purpose of giving a full report of the trial at Tours, and ceased to appear after that celebrated proceeding. Of the most violent Democratic papers, the chief are the *Marseillaise*, *Rappel*, *Cloche*, and *Réveil*. The *Journal de Paris* is not so advanced, and of the same class are the *Parlement*, *Soir*, and *Siècle*, which latter is not nearly so violent as it was in the days of absolute personal government. The *Liberté* is a Liberal paper, but favourable on the whole to the present Government. The *Temps* and the *Moniteur* are both independent, but the latter, like the *Gaulois*, is somewhat inclined to the Opposition. The *Figaro*, the most universally-read paper in Paris, professes to be entirely independent, but has a slight bias in favour of the present Government. The *Constitutionnel* and the *Patrie* are thoroughly Ministerial journals, as are also the *Etendard* and the *Peuple Français*. The *Public* is Rouherist, and the *Gazette de France* Legitimist. The *Paris Journal* and the *Débats* are independent and scarcely political;

the latter, however, being supposed to hold Orleanist views. The *Monde*, the clerical organ, is also rather Orleanist in its opinions, and the *Droit* and the *Gazette des Tribunaux* are purely legal journals.

Last week the *Charivari* for the first time during its thirty-nine years of existence appeared without an illustration. The reason for this unwonted deficiency is that the cartoon intended had been prohibited by the Minister of the Interior.

The Correctional Tribunal of Police condemned on the 17th ult. M. Enne, editor of the *Marseillaise*, to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 5,000 francs, and M. Barberet, the manager of the same newspaper, to one year's imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 francs. The Tribunal also suspended the *Marseillaise* for two months.

The first number of a Japanese newspaper, entitled the *Yono Ouwasa*, has just been printed and published in Paris. The editor is M. Leon Bosny, Professor of Japanese at the Ecole des Langues Orientales. The first number, 1,500 copies of which have been sent to Japan, contains a letter to the Mikado, advising him to throw no hindrances in the way of the free circulation of the journal.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, May 25.

The Central Committee of the Association of German Journalists met last week and held a consultation at Leipzig, when it was unanimously agreed to that the annual congress of the journalists shall be held this year at Frankfurt-on-the-Maine, and the opening day is fixed for July 3rd.

Several more changes in the German Press have to be recorded since my letter of last month. When the old *Hamburg Correspondent* was sold last year the editor, Dr. H. Bonfort, not only remained in his situation, but undertook at the same time the editorship of the *Börsen-Halle*, an evening journal belonging to the same association of capitalists, but, as the name implies, devoted more to trade and navigation than politics. This double work appears to have been too much for his health, and he has, therefore, resigned the two editorships. His successor is Dr. Julius Eckardt, hitherto editor of a well-conducted paper at Leipzig, who entered on his arduous duties as responsible editor of both journals on the 1st inst., though Dr. Bonfort remains permanently attached to the establishment. Dr. Julius Lang, for several years one of the editors of the *Bremen Weser Zeitung*, but discharged for his writings of a suspicious character, has now thrown off the mask he wore in North-Germany, and publishes a journal at Presburg, in which he openly sides with the Jesuits, and supports the Ultramontane party with all his might and energy. Herr J. Meinken, the editor of the *Provinzial Zeitung* of Bremerhaven, retires from that appointment at the end of this month. It has not yet transpired who will be his successor. Dr. Feodor Wehl, for many years editor of the feuilleton of the *Reform* of this city, has been appointed by the King of Wurtemberg artistic director of the Court Theatre, at Stuttgart, with the rank and title of Aulic Councillor. The *Outdeutsche Zeitung*, at Posen, has undergone a change of editors, by the resignation of Dr. Waldstein, whose successor is a certain Julius Stein, hitherto unknown in the literary world. The *Rheinische Zeitung*, published at Cologne, has changed proprietors, and is now the property of the Rhenish Association of Printers, by which alteration Herr Heinrich Burgers has become the chief editor. The *Neue Mittel-rheinische Zeitung*, published at Wiesbaden, has been discontinued. It was founded in 1866 as an Opposition paper to Prussia, and was subsidised by King George of Hanover, and the ex-Duke of Nassau; but as these two ex-potentates appear to have abandoned all hopes of ever sitting on their thrones again, the subsidies have been withdrawn, and without them it was impossible to carry on the concern, as there were only two hundred subscribers. An additional reason for discontinuing the paper, was the continual disagreements and disputes between the editor and his subordinates. At a meeting of the so-called National Liberal party, held last week at Kiel, Professor Lipsius of that university in the chair, it was agreed to establish a local weekly organ of their own, as the only papers in Schleswig-Holstein that supported their views were the *Flensburg Norddeutsche Zeitung*,

and the *Schleswig Nachrichten*. It was, however, stated at the meeting, that the columns of the *Hamburg Correspondent* and those of the *Hamburg Nachrichten*, were placed at the disposal of the political party above named.

The Berlin *Börsen-Courier* has had two Press prosecutions to sustain. In the first, Herr Davidsohn, the responsible editor, and Franz Schmidt, the publisher, were accused of publishing an article on the infallibility of the Pope, in which the dogmata of the Catholic Church were alleged to be scoffed at and made ridiculous; but the court did not find the charge proved, and the defendants were acquitted. In the second case, the editor Davidsohn was charged with insulting the Berlin police authorities, and also acquitted, but on appeal to the higher tribunal the sentence was reversed, and the editor fined 50 dollars. A short time ago a literary gentleman of the name of A. Heppner, who had just entered on his duties as editor of the *Volksstaat* at Leipzig, was arrested at his lodgings there at the requisition of the Berlin Criminal Police. He is still in the hands of the police, but it is doubtful whether he will be delivered up by the Saxon authorities under the new law regulating such matters. The *Lahrer Hinkende Botte* has been seized and confiscated in several places from Münster to Königsberg, for derision of the Catholic religion, and its editor, Herr Obertüschen, prosecuted by the authorities at Münster. In the first instance he was condemned to eight days' imprisonment, but the Court of Appeal reversed the decision and acquitted him. Messrs. Helle and Prengel, joint editors of the Hessian *Volkszeitung*, have been prosecuted on the charge of publishing articles containing libels on Count Bismark in his official character as Chancellor of the North-German Confederation. Prengel was acquitted, as it was proved that he was only nominally editor, but Helle was convicted of the charge and condemned to twelve weeks' imprisonment with costs.

Robert Binder, whose death at the end of last month is recorded, was one of the leaders of the revolution of 1848, which cost him several years of imprisonment, at the expiration of which he undertook the editorship of various popular periodicals one after the other, such as the *Volksbote*, *Zopf und Schwerdt*, and *Reiseisen*. At his death, which occurred at Chemnitz in Saxony, he was editor of the well-conducted paper called the *Deutsche Industrie Zeitung*.

The principal journals published in Hanover have, since the beginning of the present quarter (1st April), posted respectively the following number of copies on each day of issue:—The *Volkszeitung* (organ of the old régime) 451; the *Tageblatt* (same politics, but less decided) 248; the *Hannoversche Anzeiger* (neutral) 1169; the *Neue Hannoversche Zeitung* (organ of the Government) 550; the *Zeitung für Norddeutschland* (National-liberal) 2036; the *Hannoversche Kurier* (independent, but in all important questions on the side of the Government) 3939.—*North German Correspondent*.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, May 26.

At the end of last month the Emperor celebrated the anniversary of his wedding day, and at the same time the inauguration of his new Ministry, by an act of clemency, granting a general amnesty for all Press offences and a free pardon to those now in prison from convictions on Press prosecutions, whilst the legal proceedings that had been commenced on the indictment of the Government and were still pending, were ordered to be quashed. Of course this measure does not apply to private prosecutions for libel, where damages are claimed by the plaintiffs, but it includes those who have been convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for such offences, among those liberated being two German editors, whilst those of the Czechish nationality profit most numerously by the amnesty.

The lay priest, Dr. von Florencourt, has now definitively resigned the editorship of the *Vaterland*, but will continue for the present in the employment of the proprietors. The new editor in chief is a Dr. Eugene Puffke, of whom the *Posener Zeitung* relates that he was educated at the University of Breslau, is the author of a guide to Polish literature written in the German language, and that he was for some time editor of the *Diennik Poznanski*. The great majority of the most distinguished editors

of the journals in this city are imported North-Germans or Prussians, and this is an addition of one more to their number. Another gentleman connected with the *Vaterland*, Herr Oscar Markowsky, advertises in a local paper that in consequence of the late meeting of the board of directors of the *Vaterland*, which was attended by Count Clam-Martinitz, Count Leo Thun, Count Frederick Thun, the Landgrave von Fürstenberg, the Altgraf von Salm, and Count Egbert Belcredi, he also, on the retirement of Dr. von Florencourt, has broken off his connection with the paper. He adds that the payment of the undisputed balance of salary due to him, amounting to 338 florins, was refused with the remark that there were only a few coppers in the cash-box; and that he has convinced himself that the concern is being now carried on with uncovered liabilities to the amount of 30,000 florins.

The *Wiener Vorstadt Zeitung*, a paper lately started here for circulation in the suburbs of this city—as the name implies—has been so successful, that on the 17th inst. the daily edition had reached the comfortable number of 30,000 copies, which event was celebrated with great *éclat* by Herr Hügel, the proprietor, who gave a dinner to all connected with the paper, and presents were distributed among them.

A short time ago a meeting was held at the residence of Count Potocki—the name is pronounced “Pototaky”—which was attended by Count Taaffe, Herr von Teschenberg (the head of one of the sections in the Department of the Interior), the Aulic Councillor Schmidt von Zabierow (the head of the Cis-Lethanian Press-Bureau), Baron Gans von Ludasy, and Herr Scharf, the editor of the *Sonntag and Montag Zeitung*, who lately played a conspicuous part in a sensational action for libel (duly reported by me at the time), and was convicted and sentenced to five months’ imprisonment, from which he was lately released by the general amnesty. At this meeting it was resolved to establish a “One Kreuzer Newspaper” in this city, like the one started some time ago when Count Belcredi was Prime Minister. It is to appear on the 1st of June.

TEUTON.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, May 24.

The first number of a new daily journal has appeared at Christiana, under the title of the *Sydrenska Dagbladet*, which is edited in a spirit of moderation, though decidedly Liberal tendencies. It appears to enjoy a good staff of correspondents, particularly at Copenhagen and in this city, and is likely to become a favourite with the public. It will scarcely interfere with the new *Handels- och Sjöfarts Tidning*, published by A. Winterhjelm of the same city, which, as the name implies, is devoted exclusively to commercial interests, and indeed calls itself the “central organ for the trade and shipping of the three Scandinavian kingdoms.” The latter is also the Government organ for official publications relating to trade, and publishes extracts from the Consular Reports, Notices to Mariners, &c., whilst the former devotes itself entirely to politics and general news.

At Malmö a joint-stock company has been formed for the publication of a new daily journal in that town. The capital subscribed for the purpose is 50,000 rix-dols., and Lieut. Beyer, an officer in the Royal Engineers, is engaged to undertake the duties of editor. The new enterprise will, however, not be allowed to walk over the ground, but have to encounter a formidable opposition on the part of the old *Malmöer Snällpost*, which your readers must not think means “snail post,” though it sounds like it, but on the contrary is the Swedish for “quick post”—that journal having given notice that it will for the future be published daily.

Dr. Sohlmann, now the chief editor of the *Aftonblad* of this city, having resigned the command of the 9th company of volunteer sharpshooters, that corps entertained him last week at a banquet and presented him with a handsomely bound photograph album, containing the portraits of all the members of the company in their military uniforms.

NORD.

RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 24.

From the year 1831 down to 1861, it was the custom of the officials placed over the censorship of the Press in this country

to render illegible all articles in foreign newspapers considered by them as objectionable or dangerous, by blackening them over with printers’ ink. After that period this custom was discontinued in Poland under the administration of the Margrave Wielopolsky. But as the only alternative was to suppress and confiscate such foreign journals, which of course gave rise to great dissatisfaction and innumerable complaints and reclamations, it is now ordained that the system of blackening over be once more resorted to, which will have at least the good effect that we shall at all events receive regularly the whole file of a paper, though occasionally in a mutilated condition.

The police authorities here appear to have taken a leaf out of the French book with regard to measures of control over the home Press; for the two Conservative organs *Westy* and *Novoye Vremja* have for some time past been prohibited from being sold in the streets and other public places, and now the same prohibition has been extended to the Ultra-radical *Golos*.

COSSACK.

BELGIUM.

The Court of Cassation has delivered judgment in a case of some importance to the Press, which caused great excitement in the country, became the subject of an “interpellation” in the Belgian Chambers, and was duly chronicled at the time in these columns. The *Etoile Belge* had twice been fined 100 frs. for refusing to say where he obtained some information published in that journal about a law case that was then pending in the courts. The editor appealed against this decision, but the appeal has been rejected, and the sentence of the Inferior Court is confirmed.

ITALY.

The *Rivista Europea* for April notices the popularity of translations of English and French sensational novels published in the Italian newspapers. Amongst others the *Corriere di Milano* publishes “The Moonstone” of Mr. Wilkie Collins, and the *Tempo* of Venice gives the same author’s “Woman in White.” The *Rinascimento* of Venice contains a translation of Ponson du Terrail’s “Les Misères de Londres;” while *La Stampa* gives Emile Gaborian’s “Le Procès Leronge.”

TURKEY.

“The Sultan,” writes the *Levant Times*, “was so much pleased with a leading article on his Speech from the Throne, which appeared in the *Teraki*, a Turkish paper published in Stamboul, that he has conferred upon the editor, Ali Bey, the grade of lieutenant-col., and given him a baksheesh of 500l.” The military rank given to the fortunate editor is explained by the fact that he was originally a cadet in a military school.

UNITED STATES.

In the absence of our usual New York letter, we extract from the *Anglo-American Times* the following article on the “Religious Press of America.”

“A great institution of the United States is what is called the religious Press. There is a religious Press in England also, but it has never attained to the proportions of that in America, nor are the two alike. In England the papers are the organs of sects, and, whether Catholic or Protestant, represent shades of opinion. In America sects have their organs too, but there are leading NEWSPAPERS which are termed religious, which mix up the things of this world and the next. If asked to name the leading characteristics of these papers, we would answer Mammon; for though there are many exceptions, the majority might take as their motto part of verse fourteen of the 24th chapter of Numbers,—*Come, therefore, and I will advertise thee*. That is the general cry, coupled with earnest appeals to their friends to get up clubs for subscriptions, to encourage at all times the increased circulation among neighbours and acquaintances, to attract attention to the premiums offered, but, above all, for prompt remittances. One addresses the publishers in such a way as this—‘See what nice notices and reviews we give of books, and consider how large is our circulation among a reading and thoughtful class.’ In other words, that paper said, ‘Advertise extensively with us, and we will puff your works,’ or, ‘Come and I will advertise thee at 25 cents a line.’ Religious papers are nearly always edited by

clergymen, who so get into the habit of collecting money from all classes for the promotion of Christianity and objects of charity that they carry the cry for cash into the editorial chair. At any rate, these appeals more abound in religious papers than in secular sheets, and give a materialistic air, which grates on the reader who looks for something very different. But if this sort of charity abounds, other sorts are by no means so common. The organ of one sect handles without gloves another sect, and rival papers of the same persuasion keep up a lively skirmish. The great religious paper is the *New York Independent*, and on it the brethren pour out many vials of wrath. Lately it has been compelled by what a leading Boston paper terms the indignant feeling which its reckless utterances have called for, to enter on a laboured explanation of its religious sentiments and belief:—"It proposed to settle for evermore its character as a representative of Evangelical Christianity by publishing before the world a 'Confession of Faith' which would challenge the severest criticism. It called upon all concerned to witness to its unimpeachable orthodoxy, as seen in its solemnly avowed creed, and thereafter followed, word for word, the sermon which CHRIST uttered on the Mount." Then the *Independent* stopped, and no nagging has succeeded in extracting from it anything more. It is in New England that the religious Press flourishes, and many excellent papers are published there. Many of these discuss secular matters, and give all the news, political as well as religious. Generally speaking, they are strongly anti-Papist, being of the strictest sect of the Puritan, and it is with dismay they find Romanism on the increase in what they regard as the stronghold of Protestantism, and no small degree, too, of immorality prevailing."

At Jamestown, N.J., on the 21st April, Lieutenant-Commander William B. Cushing, U.S.N., attempted to horsewhip C. E. Bishop, editor of the *Daily Journal*. After a short struggle the combatants were separated by employes of the *Journal* office, and Cushing was bound over to appear before the grand jury.

The *Portsmouth Chronicle* has been indicted for publishing as an advertisement charges of forgery against Attorney A. R. Hatch. Several leading American papers are sending correspondents to the Maritime Exhibition at Naples. Mr. Daniel, of the *Herald*, is already in Naples, having been sent to Rome during the sitting of the Ecumenical Council. Mr. Howard M. Ticknor is also there. He was lately employed in Egypt by the *New York Times* and the *Boston Advertiser* on the opening of the Suez Canal.—In the letter found on Beaury from Gustave Fleurens, dated April 20, he regrets that the letters addressed to him had not been sent through Mr. Smalley, of the *New York Tribune*, 13, Pall Mall, London. The *Tribune* has always been bitter against the Emperor, one of its most vicious hits being in the number last received.—*Anglo American Times*.

Mr. Clarence Paget, the *New York Tribune's* representative at Paris, and Mr. Geo. W. Smalley, who is at the head of the *Tribune's* bureau, in Pall Mall, London, have temporarily changed places—the former to write up the annual exhibition of British artists, and the latter to survey the political prospect at the French capital.

THE SAFEST PLAN.—It will be remembered that last year the editor of the *Green Bay Advocate*, Wis., during his absence, left his wife to edit the paper, and that she being a Whig, took the Democratic ticket down from its columns, and wrote some energetic Whig editorials. The editor, it seems, has been again to the capital, and through his substitute announces as follows on March 22:—"Our editor has gone to Madison, and in order to make a sure thing of it, and to prevent the appearance of any more Whig editorials, has taken his wife with him."

AMERICAN JOURNALS.—American newspaper statistics give no less than 5,244 as the total number of journals, of which 542 are daily, 4,425 weekly, and 27 monthly. New York publishes the largest number—namely, 675, of which 77 are dailies; and Arizona the smallest—namely, two. Pennsylvania stands next to the empire state, and prints 495 papers, of which 49 are dailies. Illinois has 415; Ohio, 377; Indiana, 269; Missouri, 240; Iowa, 228; and Massachusetts only 219. Among the Californian daily papers is an illustrated one, the engravings of which are produced from zinc blocks acted upon with acid.—*S. Low's Monthly Bulletin*.

American Enterprise is a new illustrated paper, designed to show how the most skilful art may be rendered tributary to practical business purposes. The first number contains a series of magnificent cartoons and emblematic designs illustrative of the pursuits of the advertisers. It is published by the American

News Company, New York.—At the British Post-office the reduction of postage on newspapers to one halfpenny for six ounces will date from the 1st of October next.—"Si Slokum," of the *New York Leader*, is Mr. E. B. Kidder, an actor at Niblo's, and son of Mrs. Kidder, the poetess.—The *Toledo Commercial* says that the salary of Whitelaw Reid, of the *New York Tribune*, is very soon to be increased to 7,000 dols. a year.—The "*American Architect and Builders' Monthly*" is a new quarto magazine, devoted exclusively to the promotion of architectural art.

The *New York Herald* has now three steam yachts engaged in collecting marine news in New York harbour.

A Vicksburg editor warns "the fellow who threw that stone through the window" to look out for bullets.

A Pittsburg editor defiantly declares himself "at all times ready to wield a trenchant blade in a discussion sillogistically conducted." His adversary remains quiet.

An editor out West says: "Interviewing is very fashionable just now. We shall 'interview' a number of our citizens next week on the subject of finance. It is not certain that the result of these interviews will be worth recording."

The circulation of the weekly *Toledo Blade* is stated at eighty-five thousand.

Within the past year fully a dozen new daily papers have been established in Pennsylvania.

The New York dramatic critics are charged with "writing up" actors for ten per cent. of the gross receipts.

The ranks of the Washington correspondents' corps during the winter were augmented by a half-dozen women.

The *Proof Sheet* of Philadelphia commenced in its March No. a series of papers on "the Press of Philadelphia in 1870," by Mr. Eugene A. Munday.

FEMALE CORRESPONDENTS.—Miss Wager is the Washington correspondent of Moore's *Rural New Yorker*. Grace Greenwood, of the *New York Tribune*; Mrs. Briggs ("Olivia"), of the *Philadelphia Press*; and Mary Clemmer Aimes, of the *Independent*.

The office of the *Democratic Banner*, Mount Vernon, Ohio, has been destroyed by fire and the type and plant consumed.

There is a newspaper at Marianna, Florida, which has acquired quite a reputation in the state for spiciness and "knocking stiff" editorials, which is not only extolled by the best judges among the citizens of this county, but complimented by the Press throughout this section. This paper is edited by a young man who is just nineteen years of age. He is a regular compositor, and publishes his paper. He composes all his editorials at the case. The paper generally contains from three to five columns of editorial, one local, one to two on the order of a leader, and the remainder editorial news items. His name is Frank Baltzell, and he is the son of a lawyer of this place, who formerly edited the same paper.

There has been quite a change of late in the editorial corps of the *New York Evening Post*. Mr. Augustus Maverick has left that paper, after having been connected with it for eleven years. Mr. Charles D. Gardette, and the city editor, have also left, the former coming to this city. Mr. Maverick will leave for Europe this month. His "Henry J. Raymond and the New York Press" has been a great success, and he has realized a large profit on its sale thus far.

George M. Towle, formerly United States Consul at Bradford, England, has become one of the editors of the *Boston Commercial Bulletin*.

Theodore Tilton is engaged upon a work entitled "*Sanctum Sanctorum*;" or, *Leaves from an Editor's Table*."

The Illinois Press Association propose to make an excursion East on the second Wednesday in June, and return sometime before the middle of July. Messrs. Edwards and Steele, the committee appointed to go East, to make arrangements for the annual excursion, have returned and report the following as the probable route; from Chicago by way of Michigan Central to Detroit; thence to Port Sarnia; thence over the Grand Trunk Railway to Kingston; thence by boat down the St. Lawrence, past the Thousand Isles and the Rapids to Quebec; return by rail to Montreal; thence to Boston or Portland, as may be chosen, by rail; thence to New York city by steamer, and then home by way of New York and Erie Railroad and its connections.

The annual convention of the editors of Missouri will be held at Kansas City on the 17th of this month. Agreeably to the action of the last annual meeting, Col. Colman has appointed a committee of ten to make arrangements for an excursion to San Francisco.

The *Repository and Republican* of Canton, Ohio, was fifty-five years old on March 24th. Its first number was issued by Mr. John Saxton, in 1815, who is still connected with it as associate editor. It was originally called the *Repository*, but in 1868 it was consolidated with the *Republican*, when its title was changed.

NEW PAPERS.—*Bulletin*, Berlin Heights, Ohio (monthly); W. B. Harrison, editor and proprietor. *Journal*, Chillicothe, Mo. (weekly), Republican; Sawyer & Boyd, editors and proprietors. *Press*, Oswego, N. Y. (daily and weekly); F. A. Crandall, editor. *Telegraph*, Lumpkin, Ga. (weekly); Christian & Clisby, editors and proprietors. *Sentinel*, Grafton, W. Va. (weekly); Compton, Guseman & Thayer, publishers and proprietors. *Courier*, New Berne, N. C. (tri-weekly). *Courier*, Sioux City, Iowa (weekly); German.

CANADA.

A new journal, entitled *The Lumberman and Three Rivers Echo*, is about to be published in Three Rivers. It will appear weekly, and will be published by the editors and proprietors of the *Constitutionnel*.

Mr. A. Buies, late of the *Lanterne* (not Rochefort's), is about to publish a new semi-weekly journal at Montreal in favour of independence.

The *Elmira* (Ont.) *Anzeiger*, the publication of which was suspended a few weeks since, has been resuscitated.

The *Toronto Telegraph* gives the following graphic report of the examination of a "drunk and disorderly" before the magistrates:

The Beak.—Well, surely you won't deny that you were in a happy and glorious condition last evening, for you were discussing the question of Protection v. Free Trade with a hitching-post on Yonge-street, and when the policeman arrested you, you persisted in asserting that you felt like a morning star.

Prisoner.—No, Sir; I suppose there aint no use in my denying it. You see, this is how it happened. You saw that item in the *Leader* on Thursday, about the drill shed caving in?

The Beak.—I can't say that I did. I don't read the *Leader*. I heard of it though, and wondered how it happened that the *Leader* had for once got ahead of the other papers.

Prisoner.—Well, it was me that wrote that article.

The Beak.—You!

Prisoner.—Yes, Sir, me. I am a hack driver by profession, and the night afore I happened to be driving past the shed when the affair happened, and the editor of the *Leader* being a friend of mine, I drove up to his house on George-street to tell him about it, and he requested me to go down to the office and tell the local reporter. I went there, and they told me that he had long before sought his comparatively virtuous couch, and I would have rode on my way (eachinnation in the reportorium) had not the foreman suggested that I had better write a notice of the affair myself, and no doubt they would pay me well for it. I accordingly injected a big horn of riggizzard into my stomachio receptacle to brace me for the effort, and elaborated the article which appeared in Thursday morning's paper. I was pretty busy that day, so I didn't call to get paid for my work until yesterday morning. I went into the editorial rooms and the editor hadn't come down. I waited for about an hour, and when he came he said he had nothing to do with the financial department, and referred me to the counting-room. Well, I went down there, and they said they had no money, not having received any remittances that morning.

The Beak.—That's a very common case with them, I fancy.

Prisoner.—They told me to call again in the afternoon, and I did so, when they said the boy had not returned from the Post-office with the registered letters. I sat down and waited about half-an-hour, and presently the youth came in with two or three letters, apparently containing the squidge. Now, I'll have a chance, thought I; but, before the boy could hand the money to the cashier, a crowd of hungry-looking half-starved beings swarmed in from the editorial sanctum, job room, news room, and every part of the building, pounced upon the unfortunate youth, seized the precious documents, and forcibly abstracted the contents. I misaled to the door, and called out, "Thieves!" "Murder!" &c., in order to attract the police; but was peremptorily ordered to keep quiet by the cashier. "That is the way salaries are

paid in this establishment," said he; "we have got a little behind in our payments, and owe each of these men several months' salary, and as they generally take this means of obtaining it we have to obtain our remittances surreptitiously; but to-day they got wind of it, and watched for the messenger. Call again, a little later, if you please. Our collector started out on a blackmailing expedition this afternoon, and perhaps will be able to raise a few dollars; but then he is such an unreliable cuss, and will insist on paying his own salary first." I went back about five o'clock, and while I was sitting by the stove, a mysterious looking individual with a flowing beard and moustache, his form completely enveloped in a long cloak of dark material, entered, and casting nervous glances around him, approached the cashier. The latter did not recognise him at first, but presently, upon a sign from the stranger, he gave a sudden start, exclaimed, "Ha! 'tis he!" and seizing hold of his arm with a vice-like grasp, the two disappeared into an adjoining compartment, from which the cashier presently emerged, his face radiant with ecstatic joy. "That is our collector," said he to me in explanation, "he always enters the office in disguise and by a circuitous route, to avoid being waylaid by the employees who are on the watch for him. He changes his disguise frequently. Yesterday, he was an old apple woman, and passed unsuspected through a crowd of printers, clamorous for their pay. I pretended to purchase an apple, which was ingeniously hollowed out and the money concealed inside; he was lucky to-day, and brought in 8 dols. 76 c., so that I can pay you for your services—here is twenty-five cents. We don't generally give so much for items, but seeing you wrote it out yourself, and it was a pretty important one, we can afford to be liberal." You can fancy my disgust and indignation at being offered twenty-five cents, after having lost nearly a whole day looking after it. I didn't speak a word, but I gave him a look which transfixed him to the spot, and fled the scene. I felt so enraged by the occurrence that I invested the quarter in forty rod, and revenged myself on society by getting gloriously obliated.

The Beak.—I'll fine you 2 dols. or thirty days. This affair should be a lesson to you and to all others not to give news items to the *Leader*.

INDIA.

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE!—There is now a newspaper for the English community nestling in the healthy hills of Bengal. It is called the *Darjeeling Advertiser*, and is published among the Himalayas, within sight of the Chinese posts in Thibet.

TASMANIA.

GOOD TIMES.—We observe the following notices in the "terms for advertising," published in the Hobart Town journals:—

Mercury.—For Government advertisements in Tasmania (where no contract exists) six shillings per inch each insertion and every fractional part of an inch; for Government advertisements from other colonies, three shillings per inch and every fractional part of an inch each insertion.

Tasmanian Times.—For Government advertisements in Tasmania (where no contract exists) six shillings per inch, and fractional part of an inch, each insertion.

The copyright of the *Evening Mail* and *Weekly News* has been transferred to the proprietor of the *Tasmanian Times*, with which both journals are incorporated.

NEW ZEALAND.

AUCKLAND, March 31.

Those of the readers of the NEWSPAPER PRESS who are in the habit of seeing our Auckland papers of the present day, may be amused with the following cutting, which I have preserved, from the *Inverness Courier* of 1850. Methinks the *New Zealander* of to-day rather beats the *Inverness Courier*; I send you a copy for purposes of comparison:—

"Some friendly north-countryman, who has forsaken the green hills of Caledonia for the not less pleasant shores of New Zealand, addresses to us the *New Zealander* of the 14th August, 1850, published at Auckland. It is a tiny, Lilliputian newspaper, not so large as 'Chambers' Edinburgh Journal,' when that popular miscellany appeared in folio form—is published twice a week—and it can proudly tell the world that it has arrived at its 452nd number. It announces its agents, not only in New Zealand and Australia, and hints not only at a circulation in America, but that subscriptions are received in London, Dublin, and—Newry! We were about to half hazard a claim upon Messrs. Williamson & Wilson, the proprietors, publishers, and

printers, as one of the wandering race of Scotchmen who are popularly supposed to be found everywhere; but alas, that unfortunate 'Newry' suggests that to the other side of the channel and to the spirit of Irishmen is Auckland indebted for the *New Zealander*. This brotherly broadsheet from the South Pacific has a business air about it. Prominent in its advertising columns Holloway announces that all 'may be cured yet,' and Messrs. Jenkins and Co. attest the fact. Rowland, too, cautions the New Zealand world against spurious Macassar. It is said that Englishmen make an England wherever they go. Here is evidence of the fact in 'hds. of English ale,' 'Bass's Burton ale,' 'half-barrels of red and white herrings,' 'cases Geneva,' 'Liverpool salt,' 'prime Glo'ster,' &c. &c., which swarm throughout the advertisements. Families who remain are offered a choice of six or eight pretty cottages of all sizes, 'delightfully' or 'pleasantly' situated; while those who are on the move are offered a cheap passage to Sydney per the 'Bon Accord'—so much for Aberdeen; or per the 'Sarah,' Captain Lewis Grant! We in these northern parts—Tain, Forres, and Inverness—have been dabbling a little in mechanics' institutions, with soirées, lectures, libraries, and all that; and so have our friends in New Zealand. The Auckland Mechanics' Institute advertises that its library has been recently received (from London, we suppose), and a librarian was to be elected—that its drawing and forensic classes are in full operation, and that a lecture on 'the Early History of Palestine' was to be delivered on a certain evening by the Rev. A. REID,—members to show their cards at the door! There were 'lodgings for single gentlemen' to be let (not over an oven like those of the victim in Colman's Broad Grins); 'cigars to be sold,' and 'soups to be had daily at the Victoria Hotel!' The *New Zealander* adopts the motto—

"Be just and fear not;
Let all the ends thou aim'st at be, thy Country's,
Thy God's, and Truth's."

And under the guidance of this loyal and bold determination chronicles in three short leading articles the opening of a coal-mine, the delivery of a lecture on superstition to the mechanics, and the presentation of a purse to an amiable Minister, all preceded by a summary of English news. In this, the original department of the paper, the printers rather fail: but we dare say they, too, feel the want sometimes felt nearer home when we dismiss an unlucky broad sheet with an 'Oh, there's nothing in it!'

Twenty years ago, I cut this out of the *Inverness Courier*, and made a vow to do my best to equal the Press of the old country—is that vow far short of fulfilment? JOHN MAORI.

The *Totara* (New Zealand) *Chronicle* died, after a brief existence of three weeks. The demise is announced on a double-crown sheet with the *Chronicle* heading. All the letter-press on the first page is, "Blessed are they who expect nothing, for they shall not be disappointed." The inside pages are blank. The fourth page, under the head of "Death," has the following:—"On the evening of the 15th instant, after a short but brilliant career, the *Totara Chronicle*, aged three weeks. Let it R. I. P. Hokitika papers please copy."

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—MAY 2.

(Sittings in Banco, before Justices BLACKBURN, MELLOR, and HANNEN.)

THE QUEEN V. SHIMMIN.

THIS was a criminal information for libel, tried at Liverpool and reported in the last No. of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*, when the defendant was found guilty, but sentence was deferred. The defendant appeared to-day to receive the sentence of the court. Mr. Shimmin was the printer and publisher of a newspaper at Liverpool, called the "Porcupine," and the prosecutor was Mr. Fernie, managing director of the Merchant Trading Company. The company were owners of a steam vessel called the *Golden Fleecce*, which was lost off Cardiff, with 2017 tons of coal on board, by the water getting in at one of the bunkers, and an article appeared in defendant's paper commenting severely on that occurrence.

Mr. Davison, Q.C., with Mr. Williams, appeared for the defendant in mitigation of the sentence.

Mr. Justice Blackburn, in passing sentence, said the defendant had been convicted of libel, which was an offence punishable with fine or imprisonment, or both, at the discretion of the court on the various circumstances in the nature of the case. There appeared to be no malice in the case, and under the circumstances the sentence of the court was that he should be imprisoned in Kirkdale Prison for one month, as a first-class misdemeanant.

The defendant was then removed in the custody of Mr. Frayling, jun., the tipstaff of the court.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, DUBLIN.—MAY 17.

(Before Chief Justice MONAHAN and a Special Jury.)

George J. Alexander v. William Dunbar.—The plaintiff in this action is a seed merchant in Mary's-abbey, who sought to recover damages from the defendant, who is the proprietor of the Royal Naval, Military, and United Civil Service Institution, 36, North Great George's-street, for an alleged libel that appeared in the columns of the *Irish Sportsman and Farmer*, reflecting on the plaintiff's character.

Sergeant Armstrong, Mr. Monahan, Q.C., and Mr. Cleary, were counsel for plaintiff. Mr. Heron, Q.C., and Mr. Murphy, Q.C., were for the defendant.

The libel consisted of a charge made in the defendant's paper, against the plaintiff, that at certain coursing meetings he had entered and run a bitch as his own, which really belonged to defendant. Mr. Dunbar, at the first opportunity, inserted an apology for the libel in the same paper, and the question for the jury was whether or not the apology was sufficient.

The jury returned a verdict for plaintiff, damages £20.

In the Court of Common Pleas, last month, before Mr. Justice Willes, the action Picard v. Broadbridge was tried. This was an action by a public accountant against the *Morning Post* newspaper for publishing a circular sent to an officer at Woolwich Station, that plaintiff "continued to arrange privately the pecuniary affairs of gentlemen who are unable to settle in full." The article was headed "Money Lenders," and the plaintiff denied that he was, or had ever been, a money lender. Verdict for defendant.

SINGULAR CASES.—Newspaper proprietors should carefully instruct their advertisement canvassers not to endeavour to obtain orders by exaggerations of the circulation or incorrect description of the paper and its standing. It has been decided that any false statement as to the number of copies printed nullifies the contract, and payment cannot be enforced. But an unintentional error of description does not so act, as was shown in a recent case (BRADBURY AND OTHERS v. STREETER) in the Court of Exchequer. The case for the plaintiffs was, that the defendant agreed to pay £50 for six insertions of his advertisement respecting 18-carat gold jewellery and watches on the back of the wrapper to the monthly part of *Once a Week*, from February to July, 1869. The advertisements were duly published, but the defendant refused to pay the money, on the ground that he gave the advertisements on the condition that during those months there should appear in the magazine a translation of Victor Hugo's novel, "*L'Homme qui Rit*," which was about to be published in Paris. He, however, paid £50 into court, which he said was sufficient to satisfy the plaintiffs' claim. The plaintiffs denied that any such condition was made, but admitted having told the defendant that the novel in question would appear in the pages of *Once a Week*. It seemed that they had obtained the exclusive right to publish an English translation in this country from the French publishers, but that some delay took place in the carrying out of the arrangement. In the meantime, *Once a Week* passed into other hands, and "*L'Homme qui Rit*" was transferred to the columns of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, of which the plaintiffs were also the proprietors.

In the Court of Chancery, a bill has been filed by Messrs. Hawtin and Sons, wholesale stationers of Paternoster-row, against Mr. George Alfred Henry Dean, of Ludgate Hill, proprietor of the *Stationer and Fancy Trades Register*; the complaint being, that the plaintiffs were induced to advertise therein, and pay £4 1s. 8d. for the insertion of 4,500 specimens of papererie in one of the numbers of the *Stationer*, which specimens it was discovered were not all inserted, but the overplus converted by the defendant to his own use, and sold. The bill, therefore, prayed that the defendant might be restrained from selling any more, that he should deliver up all that he had on hand, account for all that were sold, and that the usual costs and damages might be awarded. It appears that Messrs. Hawtin were induced to advertise in the *Stationer*, under the belief that the circulation was large, and accordingly sent 4,500 specimens of their papererie, the charge for which was to be £3 10s., the price of an ordinary page of advertisements, and 11s. 3d. for mounting the specimens. Some time afterwards, it was brought to their notice that Messrs. Dean were selling the "St. Paul's Papererie;" and Messrs. Hawtin, after proper enquiries, and having ascertained the truth of the rumour, commenced proceedings. It was then admitted by the defendants that not one-half of the 4,500 papereries received had been inserted in the *Stationer*, that the surplus had by some accident got into the stock, and that some of them had been sold. An offer was then made to return all that were unsold, and pay for the remainder. This was declined; but eventually the case was settled by arrangement, Mr. Dean paying for all the surplus papereries, and all costs of the proceedings.—*Printer's Register*.

COLLINGRIDGE v. JEBBETT.—This case was recently heard at the City of London Court, before Mr. Commissioner Kerr, the claim being an amount due for copies of the *Rock* and other newspapers supplied to the defendant, who is a bookseller and newsagent in Nottingham. The defence set up was, that the orders having been sent through the post, and the letters posted in Nottingham, the judge had no jurisdiction; and this defence was allowed by the commissioner.

PROVINCIAL NEWSPAPER SOCIETY.—A deputation, consisting of Mr. C. W. Naylor, of the *Cambridge Chronicle*, president of the society, Mr. Harper, Mr. Foster, and other members, had an interview on the 12th ult. with the Right Hon. H. A. Bruce, Home Secretary, on the subject of the Factory Act as applicable to newspaper printing offices. Messrs. Naylor, Foster, Latimer, and Finlay, of Belfast, submitted to the consideration of the Home Secretary that the act as it now stands is very oppressive upon the daily and weekly Press of the country as regards the employment of youths under 16, which under the provisions of the present act on the 1st July will be extended to youths of even 18 years of age. The Home Secretary, after listening attentively to several observations, admitted the force of the arguments so ably placed before him, and promised, after consultation with the inspectors of factories, to give the matter his best consideration.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. JAMES BELLERBY.

ANOTHER well-known and much respected name has dropped out of the contemporary history of the West of England Press. Mr. James Bellerby, the proprietor of the *Exeter Flying Post*, died at his residence, Mount Radford, at one o'clock on the morning of the 29th of April, in his fifty-fifth year. Mr. Bellerby was a native of York, and from his earliest years was connected with the newspaper Press. Like Douglas Jerrold, and many other men who have become well known as skilful newspaper editors, he began his career as a practical printer, learning how to set types before he learnt how to wield the pen. Soon after his apprenticeship in Yorkshire had terminated he set out to seek his fortune in the West. To Exeter he came in the old coaching time, having a fancy it would seem for the old city, and offered his services, we believe, to the then proprietors of the *Gazette* and the *Flying Post*. As he could not find an opening here he went to Bristol, and on presenting himself to the late Mr. Thomas Taylor, proprietor of the *Bristol Mirror*, was at once engaged. In those quiet days of newspaper management, lengthy reports of local events were not attempted at Bristol, and the readers of the *Mirror* were satisfied with the condensed versions of the eloquence of local orators that a long-hand writer could furnish. Mr. Bellerby was a clever short-hand writer, which the proprietor soon discovered, and promoted him to the post of chief reporter, so that Mr. Bellerby may be said to have been the originator of a new development in the newspaper Press of Bristol. With the exception of a short interval, during which he was engaged upon another high-class Conservative journal, the *Bath Chronicle*, Mr. Bellerby continued his connection with the *Bristol Mirror*, as reporter and sub-editor, until his services were secured, some twenty-two years ago, by the late Mr. Trewman as editor of the *Flying Post*. During the Corn Law agitation he championed the cause of the farmers most energetically in the pages of that journal, and many a literary passage-at-arms had he with the Radical opponent whom he was wont to address as "our friend on the hill." Twelve years since, on the retirement of Mr. Trewman, he succeeded to the proprietorship of the *Flying Post*, and had to meet the changes and chances which the removal of the paper duty and the establishment of penny papers brought about. Of late years he entrusted the greater part of the literary work of his journal to other hands, occasionally treating local topics, however, and handling them in his usual trenchant style. He was not "a ready writer," and had no sympathy with the new order of things which requires leading articles to be written almost at a moment's notice, without much time for reflection, and hardly any more time for preparation than is occupied in the physical labour of producing "copy." On all that he wrote he bestowed great pains, and was especially punctilious as to the use of words. What he had to say he said in good round terms,—not beating about the bush to explain his meaning, but going straight to the point. Severe in his rebukes, unsparing in his censures, he was hearty in his praise, and generous in his tributes to honest worth. Jealous of the honour of the Press, he was always willing to maintain its credit, or to join with others in sustaining its position, and would never descend to mean suberviency for the sake of obtaining undue advantage over a contemporary.

Mr. Bellerby leaves a widow and nine children.

MR. CHARLES BONER.

On the 7th April Charles Boner, author of "Chamois Hunting in the Mountains of Bavaria," "Forest Creatures," &c., and translator of Andersen's stories, which he published under the title of "Tales from Denmark," died at Munich, after a long and painful illness. Mr. Boner was born at Bath on 29th April, 1815, and came to Germany as tutor to the family of the Prince of Thurn and Taxis. Having completed his engagement he removed from Ratisbon to Munich, where he devoted himself exclusively to literary pursuits. He was a contributor to the *Athenaeum* and several other English reviews and magazines. After this he spent a few years in Vienna as correspondent for

English and American journals, but returned to Munich about two years before his death. Though a diligent student and industrious writer, Mr. Boner never lost the genuine English love of sport, and nothing gave him more pleasure than to exchange now and then his pen for his rifle and his study for the grand Alpine solitudes, the favourite haunt of the chamois. His manners were unassuming and prepossessing, his friendships sincere and lasting, and he is well described in a Bavarian paper as having been "every inch a gentleman."

MR. MARK LEMON.

We deeply regret to state that Mr. Mark Lemon, the well-known editor of *Punch*, expired on the morning of the 23rd ult., at his residence, Crawley, Sussex.

Mr. Lemon was born in the neighbourhood of Oxford-street, London, Nov. 30, 1809. He was for some years a writer for the stage, and as a member of the Guild of Literature and Art occasionally donned the sock and buskin. He was one of the knot of authors who established *Punch* in the year 1841, and from the first acted as joint-editor; but on the secession of Mr. Henry Mayhew, Mr. Lemon succeeded to the chief post. He was the author of upwards of 60 dramatic pieces, and has written largely in "Household Words," the *Illustrated London News*, and other publications. He was also the author of "The Enchanted Doll," a fairy tale; "The Christmas Hamper," prose and verse collections of stories; "Legends of Number Nip," and "Wait for the End" and "Loved at Last," two novels, each in three volumes. He also edited a collection of jests, and wrote some hundred songs. His recent impersonation of Falstaff will have familiarised his figure and face to the public, who will deeply regret one of their oldest and most esteemed favourites.

MR. WILLIAM MCCOMBIE.

Scottish journalism has suffered the loss since our last, of one of its representative men, Mr. William McCombie, the editor of the *Aberdeen Free Press*. He was one of those men of whom Scotland has produced so many splendid specimens—from Robert Burns to James Hogg—a self educated peasant, we may almost say, whose earnest and steady perseverance landed him on a stage from which his thorough honesty of character and sterling qualities strengthened his way for a higher flight. An affectionate coadjutor says of him:—

"William McCombie was the only child of William and May McCombie. His father was tenant of what is now the farm of Cairnballoch, parish of Alford, then a small 'out-field' holding, consisting mainly of moor and bog, which, only by dint of long and hard toil, was gradually brought into a state of cultivation. It was there that Mr. McCombie was born, May 8th, 1809; in youth he bore his share in the arduous labours entailed in its reclamation, and when he left it three years ago, on the expiry of the third nineteen years lease, it was one of the most highly cultivated farms in the district. His father and mother were second cousins. In temperament they were widely different. His father was noted for his ardent, almost vehemently impulsive disposition, while his mother was gentle, placid and reflective in a high degree. From infancy it was not to be doubted that there was in their son a marked individuality of character, combining in some degree the mental and moral features of both parents; and it probably was some exhibition of this, coupled with a distaste for the sports of his companions, that led to his receiving such cruel and even dangerous maltreatment at the hands of the boys at Alford parish school the very first day of his being sent there at the age of seven, that he did not return to school for some three years thereafter. He was then sent to the parish school of Leochel-Cuahnle, where he continued for four or five years. This, we believe, completed his school training; and when we bear in mind how meagre and defective the style of teaching was then in even the best parish schools, it needs not to be said that in his case the labours of the schoolmaster had but a small share in his education.

"So far as we know, he manifested no precocious love of books, his mother's complaint of his very early days indeed being that he seldom had a book in his hand, save when she put it there. Beyond the Bible, of which he had an early and deep knowledge, the books at command were not, perhaps, to him particularly tempting.

"But with the love of knowledge once fully awakened in the boy, its pursuit was essayed in every available direction. He made some progress in the study of Latin, but found other regions more attractive still. Some years after the time just spoken of, and when fit to be entrusted to make the journey to Aberdeen, alone, with the farm carts, for the first time, he succeeded in getting possession of a copy of 'Paradise Lost.' Delighted with his treasure, and after perusing as much as opportunity allowed on the way home, he ventured to read some parts aloud for his father's approval. But Milton's grand speeches in the mouth of the lost archangel shocked the worthy Seceder in no ordinary degree, and thenceforth 'Paradise Lost' had to be coned in a less conspicuous way. And similarly when the Catholic Emancipation Act was under discussion, it was emphatically denounced by the father, and as warmly advocated by the son, then a mere stripling. In this case, we believe, after

much stout debate, he had the satisfaction of converting his father to his views.

"Mr. McCombie had not much passed the age of twenty when he began to entertain thoughts of entering the region of authorship. He first submitted the MS. of an essay discussing certain features of the social and moral condition of country districts to Mr. George King, bookseller, with a view to its publication; but the design was not carried out. By-and-by he had accumulated a series of essays, for which he sought an Edinburgh publisher. These essays formed the 'Hours of Thought,' published in 1835. This small work, which appeared without any name on the title page, and which was described in an introductory note by Dr. Wm. Innes as the production of one 'actually engaged in the manual labours of the field in a remote district of Scotland,' at once excited marked interest, and secured the favourable notice of men well able to judge of its merits, including Dr. Chalmers, who brought it under the notice of his students in terms of very high commendation. A second edition of the 'Hours of Thought' was published some time after by Ward & Co., London; and in 1836 it reached a third edition, the volume being then expanded, so as to include several additional essays and lectures on related subjects."

The following is a list of the various works published by Mr. McCombie:—"Hours of Thought," "Unity and Schism," "Moral Agency," "Life and Remains of Alexander Bethune," "Capital and Labour," "Essays on Education," "Modern Civilisation," and a pamphlet, after a recent tour in Ireland, on "The Irish Land Question."

Apart from his earlier works, Mr. McCombie was for some years an occasional contributor to one or two southern newspapers. He also wrote several articles for the "Journal of Sacred Literature," edited by Dr. Kitto, and for the "British Quarterly Review." But while his firm grasp of principles and power of original thought fitted him in no ordinary degree for the successful cultivation of this department of literature, his mind turned with a strong desire to a more direct and constant means of reaching and influencing public opinion. Hence his connection formed in 1849 with the *North of Scotland Gazette*, and hence the origin of the *Free Press*, started in 1853 by the late Mr. David Macallan, Mr. George King, and Mr. McCombie. In prospect of the undertaking then begun, his words were these—"We start on a course of unknown interest, checkered with peril, no doubt, but radiant with hope. We press on towards no uncertain goal; and though we know somewhat of the courage and the patience demanded of us, we gird up our loins for it anew with 'heart and hope,' venturing even to appropriate some encouragement from the fact that the path of the true and the brave is cheered by many a wayside flower, and refreshed by the gushing forth of many an unbidden spring."

At the time of his death, Mr. McCombie was within two days of having completed his sixty-first year. He married in 1840, Anne Robertson, daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Robertson, Aberdeen (originally from Leochel-Cushnie), and sister of the late Dr. Joseph Robertson, of the Register House, Edinburgh, who survives him. Their family consists of four sons now alive and two daughters.

As we write these lines, we have before us most touching tributes to Mr. McCombie's worth in the *Scotsman*, the *Aberdeen Journal*, the *Aberdeen Herald*, the *Banffshire Journal*, and other papers which bear testimony to his thorough consistency and unswerving sense of duty.

SPECIAL REPORTERS.—Of late years signal service has been rendered to the public by newspaper emissaries who have investigated the sanitary condition of our large towns, and conducted enquiries into the nature, causes, extent, and remedies of such wide-spread calamities as the potato famine in Ireland, the cotton famine in Lancashire, and the more recent mining distress in Cornwall. In not a few of our teeming hives of industry or of enforced idleness, the reporter has penetrated, regardless of his own danger, into the inmost haunts of typhus and cholera, to make the public acquainted with the plague-spots in their midst; and we have known him receive the heart-felt thanks of poor people doomed to dwell in such misery, because his exertions have shamed dilatory authorities into grappling with their duty. It sometimes occurs at political gatherings that the reporters share in the favours intended for the real *dramatis personæ*. A rotten egg, falling short of a candidate, is very likely to drop into the reporters' box; and if there be a general row the holders of pencils and note-books must take care of themselves.—*Printer's Register*.

THE death is announced, in his 98th year, of Mr. James M'Queen, F.R.G.S. In early life Mr. M'Queen was a West Indian planter, and became the proprietor of the *Glasgow Courier*, in which he ably defended the West Indian interest.

Home Subjects.

"THE PEOPLE LIKE IT."—Mr. Henry Feich, the editor of *Sporting Life* and the "Hotspur" of the *Daily Telegraph*, was a witness last month in a case of alleged cruelty to a steed, before the Liverpool magistrates. In cross examination, he admitted that the *Daily Telegraph* had the reputation with the public of being a sensational paper. He and other writers endeavoured to infuse as much spirit as possible into their contributions, as the public liked it, and this was particularly the case with regard to sporting matters."

WHITBY.—A new Conservative paper called the *Whitby Observer* has appeared. Mr. Hugh Burns, a gentleman of varied experience, and late sub-editor of the *Worcester Journal*, is the editor.

DARLINGTON.—A new daily paper is talked of at Darlington; and Durham (says the local *Advertiser*) is to have a new weekly paper called *The Drone*.

DISINTERESTED ADVICE.—The following lines, printed on the posters of *Charles's Wain*, are capable of two constructions:—

"Turn from this bill—reflect—and then
Go buy the thoughts of better men."

A LONDON IRISH JOURNAL was started last month, called *New Ireland*, of "National" but not Fenian proclivities. It is to be continued weekly, price twopenny.

"THE LONDON FIGARO" is the title of a new evening "Political, literary, and satirical journal," to be published daily at one o'clock. It contains many of the features of the defunct *Gleaner*, and devotes much of its space to public amusement. The price is one penny. It is edited by an experienced American journalist and Mr. John Plummer, and the staff consists of many able men, who in some degree share in the risk. We shall be glad for their sakes to hear of its prosperity. The experiment will be soon over. The idea of the originator is that it is no use waiting a long time for results. If it is to succeed or to fail, it can be told in a very few weeks.

EDITING A PAPER.—The following was found in the office of an editor by the county sheriff: Editing a paper is a very pleasant thing. If it contains too much political matter, people won't have it. If it contains too little they won't have it. If the type is too large, it don't contain enough reading matter; if the type is too small, they can't read it. If we publish telegraphic reports, folks say they are nothing but lies; if we omit them, they say we have no enterprise, or suppress them for political effect. If we have in a few jokes, folks say we are nothing but a rattle-head; if we omit jokes, they say we are old fossil. If we publish original matter, they damn us for not giving them original selections; if we publish original selections, folks say we are lazy for not giving them what they have not read in some other paper. If we give a man complimentary notices, we are censured for being partial; if we do not, all hands say we are a great hog. If we insert an article which pleases the ladies, men become jealous; if we do not cater to their wishes, the paper is not fit to be in their houses. If we attend church, they say it is only for effect; if we do not, they denounce us as deceitful and desperately wicked. If we speak well of any act, folks say that we dare not do otherwise; if we censure, they call us a traitor. If we remain in our office and attend to business, folks say we are too proud to mingle with our fellows. If we do not pay all bills promptly, folks say we are not to be trusted; if we do pay promptly, they say we stole the money.—*Levant Herald*.

THE LOMBARD NEWS COMPANY.—Since our last month's issue, a curious experiment has been tried in the newspaper business. The Lombard News Company, a venture launched—too late in the day—to take up the supply of telegraphic news to exchanges, chambers of commerce, and commercial news rooms generally, resolved, for some reason or other, to enter into the arena as newspaper competitors. Their idea seems to have been to forestall the Press Association supplies to the institutions named—supplies which are charged at from fifty or sixty to two or three hundred pounds per annum—by the issue of a small sheet published three times a day at a penny. The attack was first made upon the three important commercial centres of Manchester, Liverpool, and Glasgow, the new paper being issued simultaneously in these three towns on the 20th of April. As was to be expected, the new undertaking has already collapsed—at all events, so far as Liverpool is concerned. It was not likely that news rooms would pay a pound or so per week for news which they could buy in print for threepence per day. It was out of the question that a small paper like that issued could bear singly the enormous cost of the collection and transmission of the news printed in it—especially when brought into competition with the first-class dailies issued in towns like Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow. The *Lombard Telegraphic News* accordingly came to an end in Liverpool, in the short period of ten days, dying on the 30th ult. We have not heard its fate in Manchester and Glasgow.—*Printer's Register*.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* has been published under extraordinary difficulties. Information was lately received at the Home Office that the Fenians, resenting the articles in the *Pall Mall Gazette* in favour of the Coercion Bill, had determined to destroy the premises on which that journal is printed. Since then the police have thought it necessary to guard the office on all sides. Fourteen or fifteen constables have been employed in this duty.

MR. N. B. DENNY, late editor of the *Hong Kong China Mail*, has returned to England.

THE theatrical notices in the *Court Circular* are signed by the writer, Mr. Edmund Yates.

THE "Musical Notes" in the *Echo* are said to be from the pen of Walter Maynard.

THE "GRAPHIC."—The editorship of the *Graphic* has changed hands. Mr. Sutherland Edwards, who held it from its commencement, has resigned, and is succeeded by Mr. Arthur Locker, the author of several popular books and a frequent reviewer to the *Times* and contributor to provincial literature.

THE "ECHO" has lately introduced into its columns a "Guide to Shopping," being a classified list or directory of tradesmen. As its space for advertisements is limited, they will no doubt prove a profitable department.

WHAT IS A NEWSPAPER?—In the House of Commons on the 9th ult., Mr. Cranford asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer what was to be the definition of a "bona-fide newspaper" entitled to the postal privilege of six ounces for a halfpenny, and whether it was intended to embody such definition in an act of parliament. Mr. Stansfield said the question was not very easy to answer. Definitions were difficult and dangerous things. He himself thought that the best definition was to be found in the words contained in the question. Should the hon. gentleman make any suggestion on the matter the Chancellor of the Exchequer would be willing to give it his best consideration.

"THE NATIONAL CHURCH" is the title of a new journal started to combat the Anti-State Church *Liberator*.

THE editorship of the *Glasgow Herald*, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. James Pagan, has devolved upon Professor W. Mack, M.A., of Owen's College, Manchester.

CANDID AVOWAL.—"*Reynolds's Newspaper*, price one penny, circulates upwards of 200,000 weekly, amongst the enlightened classes. This is a fact not known to advertisers."

NEW PAPERS.—The *Lytham and Kirkham Times* is the name of a new eight-page paper about to start at Lytham; and the *Chatham Observer* is the name of a paper just issued at Chatham.

THE PROJECTED BIRMINGHAM "DAILY."—Dr. Langford, who was for some time connected with *Aris's Gazette*, is, we hear, to be associated with Mr. George Dawson in the editorial conduct of the new Birmingham daily paper to be published in September. Dr. Langford will have the organisation of the staff.

THE changes in the *Pall Mall Gazette* are said to have cost the proprietors £15,000. The paper has now assumed its old shape, and comes out only in the evening.

MR. EDWARD DICEY has accepted the editorship of the *Observer*. ANOTHER new comic paper is to appear in Dublin under the title of *Blarney*.

A NEW COMIC PAPER of national sympathies was started in Dublin on the 17th ult. It was a question for a time whether it should be called "*The Shillelagh*" or "*Zozimus*," but the latter name was eventually decided upon. "*Zozimus*" was a famous Dublin street ballad singer (a blind man) of the period when Daniel O'Connell was in his glory. He possessed rare humour of a rough description, and composed as well as roared the very taking ballads which he sold in the streets. The new comic paper will be principally illustrated by Mr. O'Hea, an artist who a little time ago was on the point of joining the staff of a London comic journal. *Zozimus* at once declares war against the London "comics."—"We come to chase away from our shores the flatulent buffoonery and rancid sarcasms of those anti-Irish London jesters who so hideously caricature us Irishmen, and so constantly deride and defame us all, whether we be Protestant or Catholic." The appearance of the first No. is very creditable.

THE "DAILY NEWS."—Mr. Edward Dickey has ceased to occupy the post of editor of the *Daily News*, to which he succeeded on the retirement of Mr. Walker, about three months since, and Mr. T. Hill, a gentleman at one time connected with an Irish leading paper, and a contributor to the *Daily News* for many years, takes the vacant seat. With reference to his resignation of the editorship of the *Daily News*, Mr. Dickey writes:—"I stipulated as a previous condition to all further consideration of the subject, that I should be entrusted with the complete control of the editorial department. This stipulation was agreed to. The first occasion, however, on which I felt bound, in what I deemed to be the interest of the paper, to exercise my authority, gave rise to such a divergence of opinion between myself and the proprietors that it was determined to sever the connection."

THE editorship of the *British Medical Journal* will soon revert to Mr. Ernest Hart, who has returned to London.

"THE SUN," started on the 2nd of October, 1792, has undergone a change. On the 10th of last month it appeared morning and evening as a penny paper. Mr. Charles Kent will retain the editorship. It is to be the organ of the Roman Catholics, and it is reported that the working capital is found by a noble marquis who has largely contributed to the charities of his Church. A special feature of the morning *Sun* is that it is published four hours later than the other morning papers.

THE "PALL MALL GAZETTE."—The *Pall Mall Gazette* of the 30th of April contained the following "notice" to its readers:—"The publication of the *Pall Mall Gazette* as a morning journal will be discontinued from to-day. The preference of the public for the evening edition has been so distinctly manifested by the circulation of the paper, the desire that that edition should resume its original form is so general and so constantly expressed, that the proprietors of the paper hesitate no longer. The morning edition will be discontinued; the evening edition will be printed in its present shape for a few days, while some necessary alterations of machinery are being made, and then it will reappear in its original form. The proprietors may be permitted to add that they abandon the publication of the morning journal very unwillingly; and they hope to be believed when they say they do so while its circulation is increasing, and not diminishing. Such statements are generally received with incredulity, but this one, at least, is true."

THE "TORQUAY TIMES," which has been for some time leased by Mr. John Harvey from the *Torquay Times Company*, has become the property, by purchase, of Mr. Martin Fradd, and the company has passed into liquidation.

THE *Westminster Gazette* informs its readers that the Pope has sent his "Apostolic benediction" to the writer, whose letters from Rome have appeared in that paper. The *Gazette* adds, that on two former occasions the Papal benediction has been "specially bestowed" on the paper.

MR. SHIRLEY BROOKS is mentioned as the probable successor of Mr. Mark Lemon in the editorship of *Punch*.

"THE DUBLIN EVENING STANDARD" has been amalgamated with the *Dublin Evening Mail*.

BUXTON WELLS.—We have received a copy of a new penny weekly paper entitled the *Buxton and Matlock Times*, just started by Messrs. Palmer and Edwards.

NEW MORNING PAPER.—A halfpenny daily paper, called *Morning Latest News*, appeared on Monday last, the 30th ult.

A "SLIGHT" TO REPORTERS.—The reporters of the morning papers "struck" on the 18th ult. against the arrangements made for their accommodation at the banquet given by the Benchers of the Inner Temple to the Prince of Wales. They were not asked to dine, and were placed, they say, in a position where they could neither see nor hear. The result was that they refused to stay, and the *Times* alone had a report of the proceedings, supplied by one of the guests.—*Observer*.

THE PERIODICAL WORLD.—The "Gentleman's Magazine" now issues from the house of W. W. Allen & Co., who advertised it as "the oldest and the newest magazine," with a long staff of contributors.—Mr. Cooper, the proprietor of "Once a Week," is dead.—Another new monthly, of the size of "Temple Bar," with first class illustrations, is projected.—A new periodical under the title of "Dolby's Circular," edited by Charles Dickens, junior, is talked of, to be given away.

THE LATE MR. PROWSE.—"Nicholas's Notes," by the late W. J. Prowse, will be published by Messrs. Routledge in a shilling volume. It will also contain a few selections from Mr. Prowse's more serious writings, a brief biography by Mr. Tom Hood, and a portrait by Mr. T. Scott.

INTERESTING TO OURSELVES.—Why is a newspaper like the blood of a healthy man?—Because very much depends upon the circulation.

A STUPID little weekly print appeared on the 10th ult., under the title of the *Devil*. Of the *Ferret* class, it is only less contemptible because less indecent.

TELEGRAPH NEWS.—The Post-office authorities are making arrangements for having telegrams sent "direct" from the House of Commons to the provincial Press. This was done under the old system, and since then great delay has been caused in consequence of the reports having to be conveyed by messenger to the central office ere they could be transmitted by telegraph.

PENZANCE, if it does not enjoy the privilege of issuing a daily paper, at all events is in a fair way to achieve that distinction. The proprietor of the *Cornish Telegraph* is issuing a daily "slip" of latest news at a halfpenny, under the title of *Tidings*.

Notes and Queries.

R. WATSON.—Ambrose Williams was the first editor of the *Durham Chronicle*, from 1820—John Harding Vetch, the second; but we cannot say when Williams gave place to him. Mr. Vetch was also proprietor of the paper.

NORTH BRITON.—The *Newcastle Intelligencer* was started October 16th, 1755. It was a small folio with three columns to the page, "printed by William Cuthbert & Co. in Newcastle-on-Tyne," and published on Wednesdays. Its existence did not exceed two or three years. This William Cuthbert had previously been engaged in newspaper enterprise in conjunction with one Isaac Thompson in a *Newcastle Journal*, started April 7th, 1739, which continued till Thompson's death on January 6th, 1776. Another old paper was the *North Country Journal, or the Impartial Intelligencer*, a small folio, "printed and published in Newcastle-on-Tyne by Leonard Umfreville." The *Newcastle Courant* first appeared on August 11th, 1711. It was then a folio of about seven by nine inches, and contained a good many advertisements—one of a stage coach, which performed the journey from London to Edinburgh in six days. It has been published without intermission to the present day.

MAVERICK'S LIFE OF RAYMOND.—We regret having again to postpone the second notice of this interesting work.

Obituary.

BELL, HENRY STILES, commercial and local editor of the *Morning News*, of Savannah.

BELLERBY, JAMES, proprietor and editor of the *Exeter Flying Post*, 29th April, aged 64.

BINDER, ROBERT, editor of the Chemnitz *Deutsche Industrie Zeitung*, at Chemnitz, in Saxony.

BONER, CHARLES, at Munich on the 7th ult., aged 55, a contributor to the *Athenaeum* and other journals, and formerly Vienna correspondent to various English and American papers.

BROCK, Dr. J. B., one of the editors of the *Richmond Despatch* (United States), killed by the fall of Richmond court house, April 27th.

HALLINGER, CONRAD, editor and proprietor of the Newark (New Jersey) German periodical *Volkmann*, March 27th, aged 54.

HARPER, ROBERT GOODLOE, fifty years editor of the *Gettysburg Sentinel*, and latterly of the *Gettysburg Star*, Pennsylvania.

LEMON, MARK, editor of *Punch*, May 23rd, aged 61.

MCCOMBIE, WILLIAM, on the 6th ult., aged 60, editor of the *Aberdeen Free Press*.

MCQUEEN, JAMES, aged 92, formerly proprietor of the *Glasgow Courier*.

MYERS, SAMUEL, thirty years proprietor of the *Berks County Press*, at Reading, Pennsylvania, March 29th, aged 69.

ROQUEPLAN, NESTOR, the founder of the *Figaro* of Paris, for many years dramatic critic of the *Constitutionnel*—and the original inventor of what has since become an integral part of every French newspaper—the *feuilleton*.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

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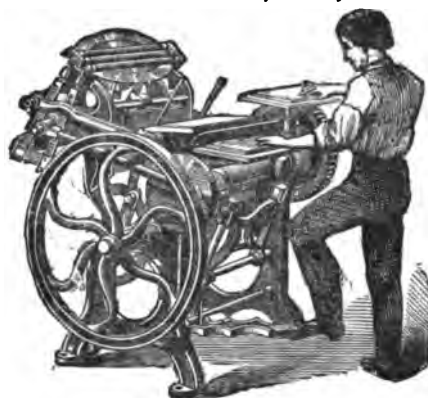
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31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

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Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

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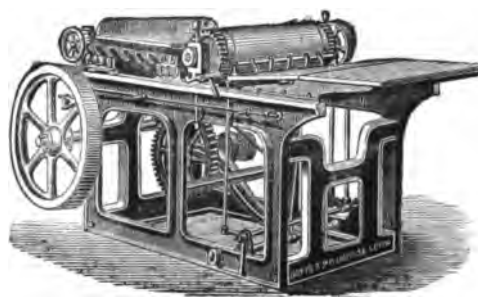


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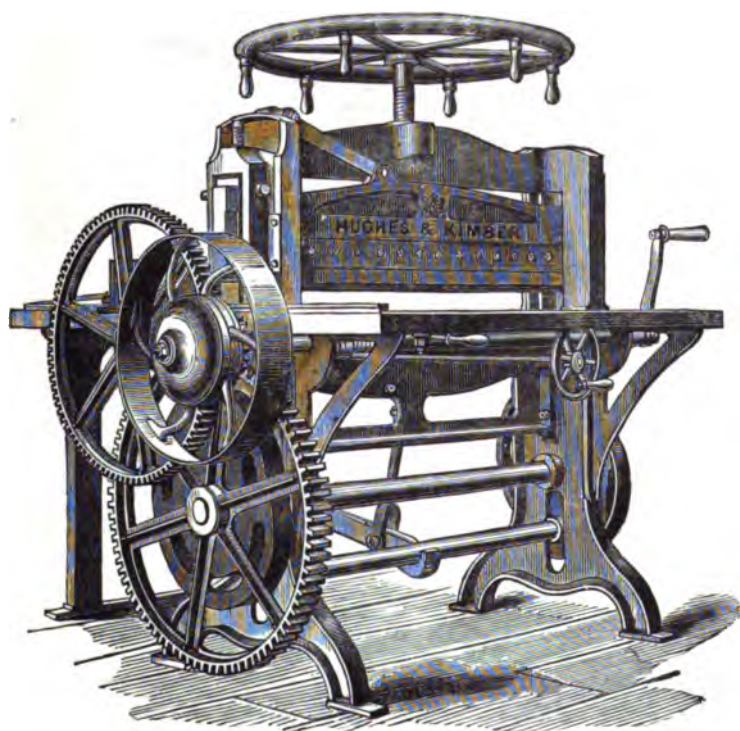
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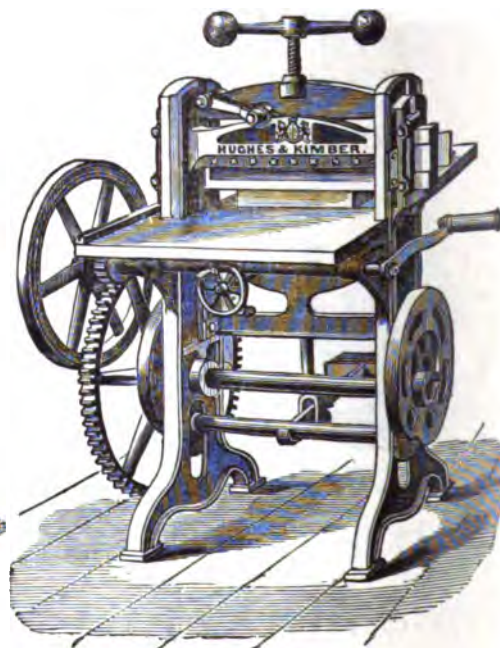
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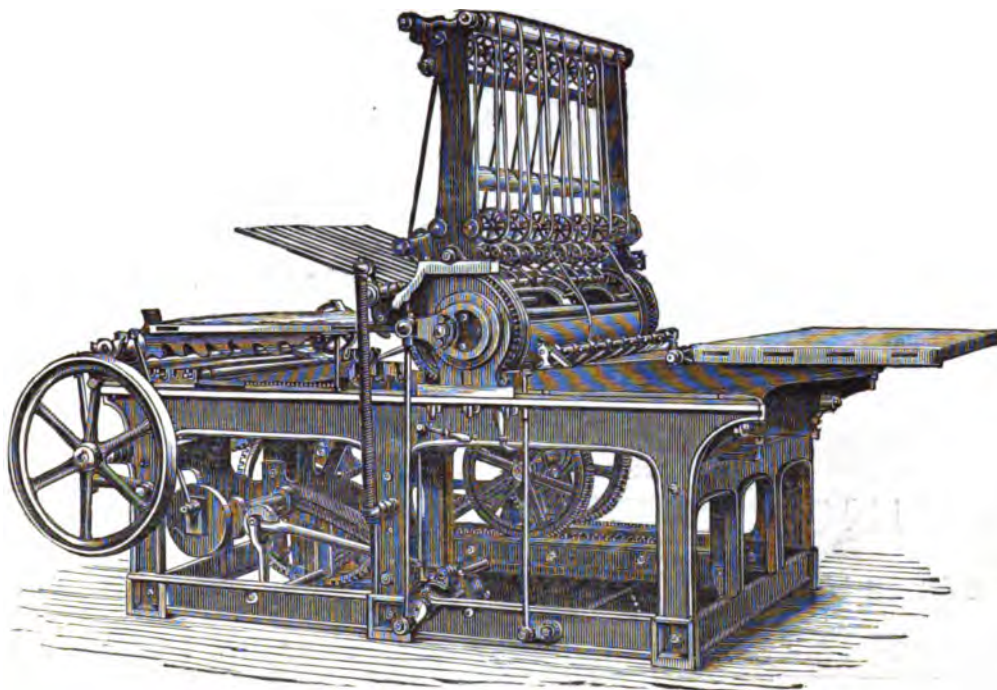
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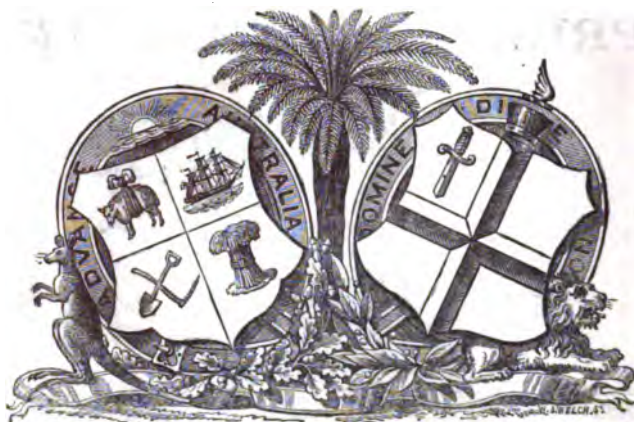
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No. 44.—VOL. IV.

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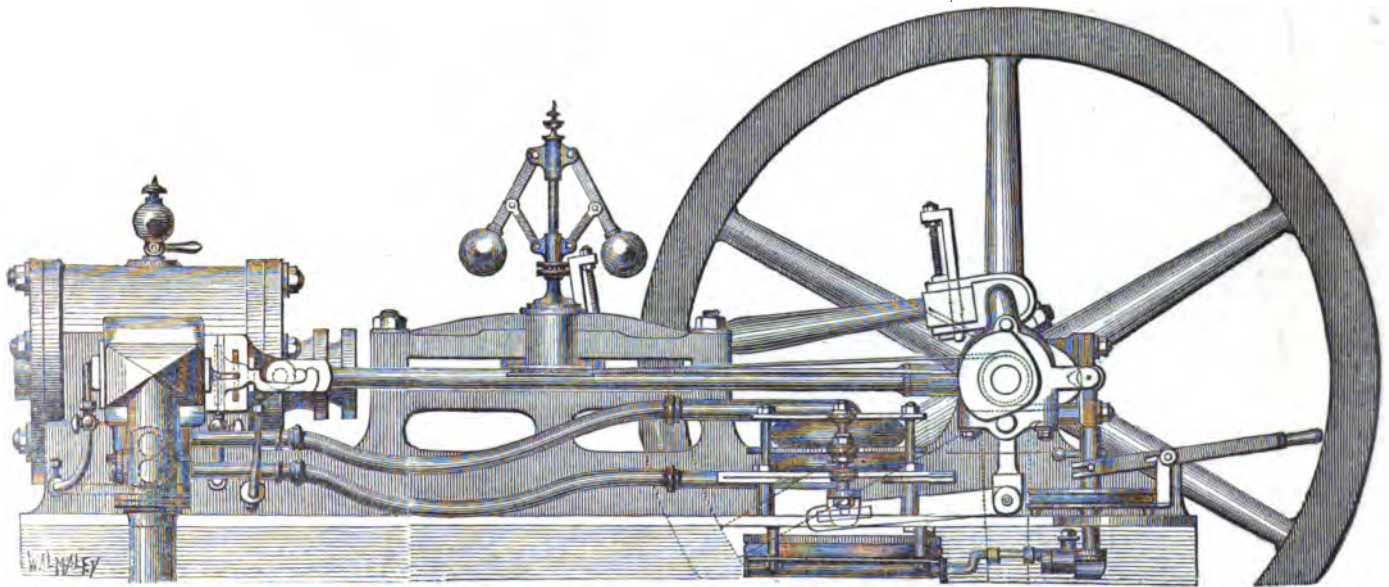
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No Advertisement inserted under 5s.

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Western Office—Mr. ONWHY'S, 127, Strand.
E. W. ALLEN, Publisher, 11, Ave Maria-lane, E.C.

We remember a homely adage, which this advanced and refined age may never have heard or seems to have ignored, that "Fair play's a jewel." The jewel would seem to be at a discount now, if we are to credit the following extraordinary statements made by the new halfpenny venture, the *Morning Latest News* :

"How difficult it is for a new venture to obtain that full publicity for which the soul of the enterprising proprietor yearns! We were naturally desirous of advertising the *Latest News* in some of our contemporaries, and that desire in most cases was gratified on our paying the proper fee—the *Standard*, for instance, inserting our modest announcement. But with the *Daily Telegraph* our fate was different. On presenting our advertisement to the clerk at the counter, it was received with a sinister smile, as much as to say, "Don't you wish you may get it in?" At our request, it was submitted to the mighty despot (knowing the classical proclivities of the *Daily Telegraph*, perhaps we might call him an archon, a consul, or a chief rabbi, all of which names are very much at his service) who aways the destinies of Peterborough-court; and while we stood trembling at the counter, a message was brought back to us. The haughty tyrant sent word that our advertisement would be inserted "on no account whatever." Tears and protests were unavailing, and, amid the laughter of the minions of power and the chuckles of a gentleman who was writing a Paris letter in an adjoining office, we departed in silence and sorrow."

We said advisedly "If we are to credit it," because we cannot bring ourselves to believe that a journal which has always shown itself fully alive to thorough business principles, should have committed such an act of heresy, if not treason, against the faith which it professes. We would fain believe there is some mistake—for the complaint is written in a loose and flippant style—but the *London Figaro* has had something to say of a similar nature.

We cannot lower our comprehension to *understand* by what process such a short-sighted and narrow-minded view of the concerns of life is arrived at. Is it possible that the *Daily Telegraph* can fear the competition of a halfpenny morning half-sheet, or a fitting ray of the setting sun? If it possesses "the largest circulation in the world," its position must certainly be impregnable to such pigmies. We presume that the mistake—for mistake it must be from first to last—is attributable to the blundering zeal of some junior clerk in the office.

To the same young gentleman's charge we lay the twaddling scandal that cropped up at the Guildhall before the profound Sir Robert Carden :—

"An advertising agent named Orr was the complainant, and during the hearing of the case was subjected to a cross-examination relative to the class of advertisements which he had chiefly to do with. The report states :—

Two of these advertisements, which were read, were of a very objectionable character, and were addressed to married ladies only.

Sir Robert Carden incidentally observed that he did not believe any paper would insert the advertisements which had been referred to.

Mr. Orr—Oh, yes, it would.

Sir R. W. Carden—The *Telegraph* would not put it in.

Mr. Orr—Yes; it would for 30s.

Sir R. W. Carden—I do not believe you could get it into that or any other paper.

Mr. Orr—I could get it into any paper in England by paying more for it.

Sir R. W. Carden—I do not believe it.

Mr. Orr—It is a fact.

Sir R. W. Carden—I do not believe it. I do not believe that any paper in the kingdom would put in such a filthy advertisement.

The magistrate, after further expressions of incredulity, said :—

I wish it to be distinctly understood that he asserts that the *Daily Telegraph* would put this advertisement in, which as an ordinary one would cost 5s., but that in consequence of the filthy nature of it they charge 30s. for it. I do not believe it; nor do I believe that they would let it go in at all; and I hope, Mr. Alkman, you will not let the matter rest here.

Mr. Orr—I am sorry, Sir, to hear you say what you have, for I have put them into the *Telegraph* over and over again for 30s., and I could get them into any paper in England."

We give an *emphatic denial* to the last assertion of Mr. Orr, but we are bound to say that he subsequently attended at the Guildhall, and produced a receipt from the office of the *Daily Telegraph*, which, if genuine, purported to be for the insertion of an objectionable advertisement at an unusually high price. If the document were correct (and we have no right to doubt it), we advise the readers of the paper to be guided by the highly moral "leaders," but not to let their eyes stray over the advertisements. And we advise the proprietors, for the sake of their character for consistency, to exercise a discreet supervision over their advertising department, or get rid of the junior hands whose powers of discrimination between fair and objectionable advertisements seem to be guided by "the price they pay."

IN our May number we printed an extract from Mr. Hodder's "Memories of my Time," under the heading of "The First Days of Punch." This appears to have drawn from our correspondent "Cito" (prophetic signature!), a letter which we inserted in our June number, suggesting an "Autobiography of Mr. Punch," to be written by the only (then) living man capable of doing justice to the subject. To this letter we appended an editorial note of regret that the time was passed when we could hope the admirable idea of our correspondent could be fulfilled. We trust we are not misinformed, but we believe that Mr. Lemon has actually left an account of *Punch* which is likely to be published shortly.

ALMOST contemporaneous with the death which has thrown a gloom not only over literary circles, but upon the entire households of England, her colonies, and America, the summons to a higher and a better world of one of the most hardworking, conscientious, and honest journalists and writers whoever plied the pen through at least three generations—CYRUS REDDING—is in danger of being almost overlooked. Let us therefore do our duty to our old comrade, contributor, and friend, by pointing a silent, regretful finger to the all inadequate notice which occurs in "Our Monthly Necrology" this day.

ILLEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.—The Law Officers of the Crown have published a short bill, which, we may assume, will be known, in a short time, as the Larceny (Advertisements) Act. It has reference to that section of the Larceny Act (1861) which provides that "any person who prints or publishes advertisements for the return of stolen goods without questions being asked, or the like advertisements therein mentioned, forfeits the sum of fifty pounds to any person who will sue for the same by action of debt;" and after reciting that "the provision in the said section has given occasion to many vexatious proceedings at the instance of common informers against printers and publishers of newspapers," it is proposed to enact that—"Every action against the printer or publisher of a newspaper to recover a forfeiture under section one hundred and two of The Larceny Act, 1861, shall be brought within six months after the forfeiture is incurred, and no such action against the printer or publisher of a newspaper shall be brought unless the assent in writing of her Majesty's Attorney General or Solicitor General for England, if the action is brought in England, or for Ireland, if the action is brought in Ireland, has been first obtained to the bringing of such action."

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

No. XVIII.—NON-PRIVILEGED REPORTS OF PUBLIC MEETINGS.

As regards liability for reports of proceedings at public meetings, efforts were made, so far back as 1843, to effect an alteration in the law. Between that year and 1857, many actions for libel were brought against the Press arising out of such reports; but no case of the kind was brought prominently into public discussion until the question arose in the *cause célèbre* of "Davison v. Duncan"—the Durham case, which we noticed in the May No. There was, however, sometime prior to this, an action against the *Morning Herald*, arising out of a matter which had excited a good deal of interest and had been the subject of much newspaper comment. The action was brought by a lady, daughter of a naval officer, deceased. She had applied to the Naval Benevolent Institution for pecuniary assistance; and at one of the annual meetings of that institution, her claim upon the funds of the charity was discussed; the result being, that she was not considered an object worthy of relief. The language of various admirals and other officers in the navy, was very strong, and ultimately her case was altogether rejected. In the action against the *Morning Herald* she was unsuccessful, upon a plea of justification, affirming the truth of the statements made at the meeting; but although the *Herald* obtained the verdict (after a trial of three days), it had to pay its own costs, amounting to about £500; the lady having no pecuniary means whatever; notwithstanding which, however, she brought many actions against other newspapers, for their reports of the proceedings, and inflicted a considerable amount of costs upon them. This litigation did not, however, attract much public attention, and it gave rise to no question of law as to the right of the Press to report the proceedings of public meetings, without being amenable in damages for defamatory matter uttered at such meetings. That question arose, for the first time, as we have before stated, in the case of "Davison v. Duncan." Mr. Baines, in his evidence before a select committee of the House of Lords, in May, 1857, referring to that case, stated as follows:—"I wish to say that the law of libel, as laid down in the case of 'Davison v. Duncan,' has not been practically enforced in England for many years, as I conceive, because it is contrary to the general sense of justice, and to the public advantage. If rigidly enforced, the law would, to a great degree, suppress the publication of proceedings of public meetings. If it is only occasionally enforced, it becomes a trap to publishers, and is unjust and oppressive to them. The established usage in England, for many years, has been that the proceedings of public meetings shall be reported in newspapers. There is a liability to some disadvantage from that practice, but I conceive that the advantages infinitely overbalance the disadvantages."

The law, as expounded in the case of "Davison v. Duncan," brought into its meshes a host of unfortunate journalists—unfortunate, inasmuch as they found they had infringed the law unwittingly. One of the first victims, after the decision, adverse to the claims of the Press, in the Durham case, was the *Sheffield and Rotherham Independent*. The proprietor of that paper was, in 1858, sued for publishing a report of a meeting held publicly in the town hall of Sheffield, and attended by reporters for the Press. The speeches at the meeting attacked, in virulent terms, the conduct of the plaintiff, but the *Independent*, in its report, gave only the gist of the speeches, carefully omitting a number of personal remarks disparaging of the plaintiff; moreover, the proprietor, in an editorial paragraph, expressed his dissent from the language used at the meeting, and explained that he had published the report, not as approving the language or the spirit of the speeches, but as a matter of local information. But an action for libel was brought—"Harrison v. Leader"—and the jury, being told by the learned judge (Mr. Justice Willes), who presided at the trial, that the report in question was, in law, unprotected, gave the plaintiff a verdict for the nominal sum of one shilling; it having been proved that the meeting was one in which the public at Sheffield

took a deep interest, and that the report of the proceedings was a correct and fair one.

The next case was that of "Popham v. Pickburn," for publishing, in the *Clerkenwell News*, a report of a vestry meeting of the parish of Clerkenwell, at which a report of the medical officer of the parish was read; imputing to the plaintiff, a chemist and druggist, that he had given false medical certificates. The case came on for trial at the Middlesex *nisi prius* sittings of the Court of Exchequer, on the 31st May, 1861, before Lord Penzance—then Mr. Baron Wilde. The evidence of the medical officer fell short of verifying the statements made in his report. It was, however, proved that, under the act of parliament—the Metropolitan Local Management Act, 18th and 19th Vict.—the medical reports were to be made to the vestry board, and to be published yearly, in the month of June, and copies were to be sold to the parishioners, on application, for a sum not exceeding two pence. Upon this evidence it was contended, on the part of the defendant, that the publication of the medical officer's report, in the defendant's newspaper, though occurring previous to the authorised publication of it under the statute, was privileged.

The learned judge, however, in his observations to the jury said:—"An individual ought to be, and is, at liberty to publish in a newspaper the proceedings of such a body as this vestry, but then he does it at his own peril. If a medical officer, whose duty it is to make a report, states anything false, that is an evil which so far is not to be remedied. He reports to the vestry, and the vestry, of course, knows what he says; but the report is to the vestry only; and not to the public at large. The necessity for making the report does not carry with it the necessity for publishing it to the world; and, therefore, if an editor chooses to publish, he does so at his own risk. I think that reasonable, because there well may be a necessity for a report being made to the vestry; but the harm done by making a false report to the vestry, is much more limited than it is by making it public to the world. So far, it seems to me, the defendant was not justified in publishing the report in question;—I mean on the ground of privilege." Under this ruling, a verdict was found for the plaintiff, damages £25.

But the case came on in February, 1862, for further discussion in the Court of Exchequer, upon a rule *nisi* to set aside the verdict, on the question whether the publication was justified under the Metropolitan Local Management Act before mentioned. In giving judgment, the Court said:—"The plaintiff seeks to protect himself on the ground that the publication in question is a correct report of a document read at a meeting of the Clerkenwell vestry, which document would, it seems, have been published, and sold to the parishioners by the vestry at a small price in a short time afterwards. But we are of opinion this furnishes no defence. Undoubtedly, the report of a trial in a court of justice in which such document had been read, would not make the publisher thereof liable to an action for libel; and reasonably so, for such reports only extend that publicity which is so important a feature of the administration of the law in England, and thus enable to be witnesses of it, not merely the few whom the court can hold, but the thousands who are not present, but who read the reports. But no case has decided, that the reports of what takes place at a meeting of such a body as this vestry is privileged; indeed, the case of 'Davison v. Duncan' is an authority that they are not. Then, is the publication justified by the statute? We think it is not. It is true that the document would have been accessible to the public in a short time, though not published in the defendant's newspaper; but this cannot justify his anticipating the publication and giving it a wider circulation, and that without any answer or explanation, which the vestry might possibly have received in some subsequent report or other communication, and which would then have been circulated with the libel. This defence therefore fails. It is to be observed, further, that our decision does not determine or affect the question whether, after the statutory publication of the medical officer's report, it might not be competent to the defendant and others to republish such report, with or without reasonable comment? But this does not affect the present question; and our judgment upon that question is, that the verdict for the plaintiff must be sustained."

THE HALFPENNY POSTAGE.

THE feeling of satisfaction which pervaded the newspaper world when it was announced that the halfpenny postage stamp was settled on equitable terms, was somewhat rudely disturbed when the text of the bill was published. The bill itself seemed simple enough. It placed every newspaper, when registered, on the same footing. A halfpenny stamp, either affixed or impressed on the cover, would frank any single newspaper to its destination within the United Kingdom. The Post Office authorities withdrew the privilege of retransmission, but they agreed to deliver the newspapers within the postal district or town in which it might be posted. They had also agreed, in places where the Post Office is used on a large scale, to send a clerk to the office to obliterate the stamps, in order that there might be no delay to the speedy transmission of the latest news at the latest possible hour. The Postmaster-General had vindicated his promise of affording every possible facility to newspaper proprietors which they could in justice demand. Therefore, after the 30th of September next the rate of postage will be—"On a registered newspaper, not exceeding with any supplement and with any cover, six ounces in weight, *one halfpenny*. On a book packet, or pattern, or sample packet—if not exceeding two ounces in weight, *one halfpenny*; if exceeding two ounces in weight, for every additional two ounces or fractional part of two ounces, *one halfpenny*."

We use the term *will* be advisedly, for we do not believe that the alterations proposed by Mr. Rylands or by Mr. Watkin Williams, to alter the clause so as to permit a *packet* of newspapers under six ounces in weight to be sent for one halfpenny, will be affirmed by the House of Commons, or obtain the consent of the Government. The only daily paper in London which would benefit by this arrangement would be *The Echo*, and it is much to be doubted if the interests of the proprietors or its readers would not be more promoted by the clause as it stands, than by the proposed amendments. The effect of the amendments would be to make the Post Office authorities carriers of bulk, and bring them into competition with the railway companies and carriers generally. It has been calculated that at the rate of one halfpenny for six ounces, it would be cheaper to employ the Post Office as carriers than the railway companies, for the one would collect and deliver, whilst at present the railway officials do neither. Even if we were providing for a theoretic newspaper world, the alterations would not be just either to the public or to the private interests likely to be involved. The Government had to deal with existing newspapers without fear or favour, and they have dealt with them according to promise, by placing them all on the same footing. We observe that the only journal, as far as we are aware, which supports the amendment, uses as an argument that the *Times*, which now pays £12,000 a year for impressed stamps, will gain nearly £7,000 a year by the alteration, though the leading journal, when announcing the new proposal, stated that when the new rate of postage came into operation it would present the public with the entire amount, by abolishing the difference of price between the copies delivered through messengers and through the Post Office. It is a remarkable fact, that a considerable number of country newspapers have not only made a similar announcement, but many of them have reduced their price from 4d. to 3d., and from 3d. to 2d. If newspaper proprietors received a boon by the abolition of the paper duty, the public will receive the benefit of the postal change now about to be inaugurated.

There was, however, a clause in the bill at which many newspaper proprietors smiled and others regarded with alarm. In his anxiety to guard against fraud, the Postmaster-General had inserted a clause that a supplement should be deemed part of a newspaper, when it was of the same sized page, and printed in the same style and type of the newspaper itself. It requires but a slight acquaintance with country newspapers to know that supplements are seldom given of the same sized page as the newspaper itself. Twenty-five country newspapers reached us on Saturday morning, the 25th ult., and though the majority gave supplements, only two, the *Oxford Journal*, and the *Leamington Courier*, had the supplemental sheets of the same size as a page of the paper itself. The *Carlisle Journal*, which is most liberal in the matter of supplements, prints four pages on a slightly

smaller sized sheet. Even when we glance through our collection of country newspapers, we find that the supplemental sheets vary from the occasional eight pages of the *Times*, to a slip of half a column, containing a brief account of a railway accident, given with a partly London printed paper published in a small market town. In some newspapers, such as the *York Herald*, *Manchester Weekly Times*, *Hereford Journal*, *Leamington Courier*, *Carlisle Journal*, the supplement is really an integral part of the paper, which is printed separately for the sake of convenience. In others it is only occasionally given to meet some extraordinary demand in the usual space at the disposal of the editor. The arrangements of the Post Office, if the clause had remained unaltered, would either have forced newspaper proprietors to print their supplements uniform in size, or obliged them to forego their publication altogether. It was not therefore a matter of wonder, that the members of the Provincial Newspaper Society appealed to their president to take immediate action in the matter. A deputation waited on Mr. Tilley, the secretary to the Postmaster-General, on the subject, and the facts we have given were brought before him by the president, Mr. J. Glover, and two of the vice-presidents, with such success, that Mr. Tilley, after communicating with the Postmaster-General, announced that steps would be taken to alter the clause, so as to meet the views of the deputation. The Post Office authorities had only looked at the subject from their own point of view. They knew that placards, and sometimes circulars, were sent through the post as supplemental sheets, and this practice they wished to prevent. Enclosures of all kinds will be strictly forbidden in future, except real bona fide supplements of the newspaper.

Another question arose incidentally out of the discussion on this clause. The old enquiry of "What is a newspaper?" came to the front again. In Birmingham, Edinburgh, and Dublin, there was published the *Midland Counties Herald*, the *North British Advertiser*, and the *Dublin General Advertiser*, which are simply advertising mediums, except perhaps the first mentioned. It was very doubtful whether, under the words of the new bill, these publications, and others of a similar class, were really newspapers within the meaning of the words used. Dr. Cameron of Dublin was in London, and communicated with the P. N. S. on the subject. He was invited to join the deputation to Mr. Tilley, and succeeded in obtaining a promise of a clause to preserve existing rights. The postage bill is amended according to these suggestions, and doubtless now it will meet with the approval of both newspaper proprietors and the public.

BOURGEOIS.

KEEP WATCH!

(From the *Echo*.)

In granting the Rev. W. Greenwell a rule for a criminal information against the proprietor of the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, the Court of Queen's Bench have not, in our opinion, acted with undue severity. But in reading the full report of the application, we notice with pleasure the evident reluctance manifested by the Lord Chief Justice to do anything which might be construed into a desire on the part of the court to restrict the freedom of public discussion. The writer had practically accused Mr. Greenwell of having ordered a prisoner who was suffering from *delirium tremens* to be so brutally beaten as to be half killed. These statements, as the Lord Chief Justice observed, should not have been made by a person who was not prepared to prove them. A man who writes strongly is always in danger of forgetting the great difference between being a master of words, and allowing words to be masters of him. But repeatedly and persistently the Lord Chief Justice pointed out the liberty, and even duty, of public writers to express very strong opinions on the severity of a punishment inflicted by a judge or magistrate. Those who observe the signs of the times may easily discern a tendency to curtail the power of free comment on that which is freely published. The tendency may be partly attributed to occasional abuses of liberty, but journalists and the public are equally interested in watching with a jealous eye all cases which appear in any way subversive of freedom.

REVIEW.

Henry J. Raymond and the New York Press for Thirty Years.
By Augustus Maverick. Hartford (Connecticut). A. S. Hale & Co.

[SECOND NOTICE].

We might take exception on this side of the "big sea" to the tone of admiration in which Mr. Maverick relates what was somewhat of a dirty trick played by the *New York Times* upon the *New York Herald*. On the occasion of the loss of the Collins steamer "Arctic," with several distinguished citizens on board, great anxiety about the missing steamer had gravitated into a rumour that news had arrived of her positive wreck, but *who* had received the news was for the moment a mystery. The fagged and jaded city editor of the *Times*, going home in a street car at three o'clock in the morning, overheard a conversation between the conductor and a drunken man which led him to believe that the sole survivor of the wreck had gone straight to the office of the *Herald*, whose liberal pay for early news was notorious, and given an exclusive account to that paper. Back went the tired editor to his office, and sent off a cunning and not over scrupulous compositor to get hold of the news; but the *Herald* people, aware of the value of their intelligence, were working off a large impression with closed doors, locking out all whom they could not trust, and perhaps looking in their informant, by this time thoroughly drunk and incapable of giving a coherent report. But the wary city editor of the *Times* was not to be foiled. Sending the same artful hand to the *Herald* office as soon as the doors were opened, a copy was obtained—the entire working strength of the *Times* was summoned—the copy cut into four-line "takes" and set up, while the *Herald* hands were folding and handing the first copies for the morning mails. Suddenly out came the *Times*, and flaring posters announcing the authentic account of the loss of the "Arctic," as given by the sole survivor. "Cute," no doubt—very. Another anecdote of Raymond—at page 252—is not to our liking, and a judicious friend and biographer might, we think, fairly have suppressed it, but probably Mr. Maverick gives it as a specimen of the vile personalities in which the New York Press is wont to indulge. Mr. James Gordon Bennett is certainly not a character capable of inspiring much respect, but it was exceedingly bad taste on Mr. Raymond's part to publish a portrait of him "with two little horns budding from his head." The story of the satire painfully drawn through two pages is pitiable, and we are glad to hear Mr. Maverick admitting that "it was an absurd act of the proprietors of the *Times* to indulge in a performance suited only to the pages of some low comic weekly. Raymond himself was afterwards ashamed of it. It resulted in no service to the *Times*, and it did not injure the *Herald*; for no one gains by abusing his neighbour, and he who is abused inevitably receives a certain degree of sympathy. Fair ridicule is sometimes justifiable, but obfuscation defeats its own end." Truly and wisely written! But more's the pity that Mr. Maverick thought the story worth recording.

We regret that it is quite beyond the capability of space at our command to reproduce the tabular statement given at page 384 of the quarterly receipts of fifty-four of the New York journals: for figures we must refer our readers to the book itself, but for facts we must endorse Mr. Maverick's words—"These imposing statistics reveal some part of the immense force inherent in the journalism of New York." We must pass over for the present the subject of technical education for journalism—on which some remarks have already appeared in the NEWSPAPER PRESS—as opening up a question too large to be treated in the review of a book of this character, and content ourselves this month with the following extract on the past and present status of the writers for the public Press of America:—

"Thirty years ago a New York editor seldom had more than two or three assistants, and their emoluments were not commensurate with the labours required of them. Mr. Raymond received eight dollars a week from Mr. Greely. The lapse of thirty years have changed every phase of newspaper life. Each of the great daily papers of New York at the present time employs more than 100 men in different departments, and expends half-a-million of dollars annually with less concern to the proprietors than the outlay of one-quarter of that sum would have occasioned in 1840. The editorial corps at the present day number at least half-a-score of persons, and the reporters are equal in force; 60 compositors, and eight or ten jobbing hands and pressmen, to put in

type and print the contents of each paper; 30 carriers convey the printed sheets to the readers; 12 clerks and book-keepers are employed by each paper. The editorial salaries now range from 25 to 60 dollars a week; reporters from 20 to 30 dollars; and the gross receipts of the first-class daily morning papers for a year often reach 1,000,000 dollars; of which an average of one-third is clear profit.

"The evening papers, employing fewer hands, and incurring less expenses, make a proportionate profit. The day of a cheap daily Press expired soon after the beginning of the civil war. The price of a morning paper had been two cents for many years prior to 1861; but the sudden rise in values immediately affected all the sources of supply. Printing paper rose to twenty-four cents a pound—nearly double its former price. Ink and type also went up to higher figures; higher wages were demanded by the workmen; salaries were increased; and the price of a newspaper rose to four cents, with an additional penny for the Sunday issues. Several cheap papers have since sprung up, which are sold for two cents each, but it is thought they cannot long survive. The whole number of newspapers published at the end of 1869, in New York alone, is upwards of 160. Of these, 24 are published daily—13 in the morning and 11 in the evening. The remainder are weekly papers, and of the whole number of these, 18 are the organs of religious sects. Of the daily papers, two are published in the French language, and three in German. Of the weeklies, 18 are in German, one in Italian, and two in Spanish. In addition to 24 daily papers and nearly five times that number of weeklies, several magazines and monthly publications are published in New York. More than 200 newspapers are published in the United States for the exclusive benefit of the Germans, Scandinavians, Frenchmen, Italians, Bohemians, and Dutchmen, who have emigrated there to find permanent homes. It is an important incident in the life of this large foreign element that a free Press is essential to their happiness. It is a luxury they never enjoyed until they became American citizens. One class of journal has wholly died out in New York. In the course of a dozen years many attempts to establish a comic paper have been made, and have failed. Like Jonah's gourd, they have had a rapid and unhealthy growth, only to wither in untimely death. In England, this style of journal possesses vitality. *Charivari* pleases the wits of France with epigram and illustration; and *Kladderadatsch* stirs the German by such saucy words as the censor permits; but in New York there are only left the memories of the departed fun of *Yankee Doodle*, *John Donkey*, *Vanity Fair*, and one or two others. Thus far, the genuine witty paper has not taken root in American soil. In the United States, it is too often true that a newspaper is established so completely in the interest of a party or a clique, that, while the strength of clique or party is sufficient to ensure it a legitimate support through the regular channels of subscription and advertising, the editorial columns are never free from partisan bias: and the editor, though not reduced to the necessity of direct and abject begging, is in reality in a worse condition than he who goes humbly, hat in hand, to ask for crumbs. Trade, finance, commerce, religion, spiritualism, the rights of women, politics, literature, art, science, fashion, frivolity, and vulgarity."

PRURIENCY IN THE LONDON PRESS.

(From the *Printers' Register*.)

ON the subject of the pruriency of a part of the London Press, there are two or three noteworthy items to record. A very filthy trial has taken place at one of the police-courts, and the details were unutterably abominable. These have, except in one instance, not been inserted, but their filthiness has been fully suggested, if not expressed. The one exception is *Reynolds's News*, which advertises that it has a larger sale, "with only one exception," than any two newspapers in London—the guaranteed circulation being over 240,000 weekly. So great was the public outcry against this flagitious instance of Press immorality that the paper on the following week published a whining excuse.

Again. A very unsavory subject was discussed in Parliament the other day, and in order to suppress the indecent details which were expected, an hon. member moved for the clearance of the strangers' gallery, thereby excluding the reporters. The gentleman referred to has since explained his object in taking this most unusual step. He said he did not wish to be misrepresented to the public. His reason for noticing their presence was to prevent the breakfast table of every home in the country being flooded with details utterly unfit to be published. It is instructive to notice how the laxity of Press morals affects the rights and privileges of the whole community. Because an hon. member—rightly or wrongly we do not say—anticipates that the Press may be inclined to do what it ought not to do, the debate is conducted with closed doors, and the privilege of the public to be present at the debates in their own legislature—a privilege which was hardly won and has been jealously preserved, is completely swept away for the time. In the other case, the publication of offensive details led to a demand for closed doors during the trial of the accused, thereby infringing upon another privilege dear to Englishmen—that of open and public trial. The magistrate to whom the application was made could only say that he did not see that he could interfere with the management of newspapers, and that there was always a very strong feeling in this country against secret enquiries.

THE NEW POST OFFICE BILL.

THE Post Office Bill contains the following provisions:—

Any publication coming within the following description shall for the purposes of this act be deemed a newspaper; that is to say, any publication consisting wholly, or in great part, of political or other news, or of articles relating thereto, or to other current topics, with or without advertisements, subject to these conditions—

That it shall be printed and published in the United Kingdom;

That it shall be published in numbers at intervals of not more than seven days;

That it be printed on a sheet or sheets unstitched;

That it have the title and date of publication printed at the top of every page.

And the following shall, for the purposes of this act, be deemed a supplement to a newspaper; that is to say, a publication consisting wholly, or in great part, of matter like that of a newspaper, or of advertisements, printed on a sheet or sheets or a piece or pieces of paper, unstitched, with a leaf or leaves of the same form and size as the leaf or leaves of the newspaper to which it is a supplement, and published with the newspaper, and having the title and date of publication of the newspaper printed at the top of every page.

The proprietor or printer of any newspaper within the description aforesaid, may register it at the General Post Office in London, at such time in each year and in such form and with such particulars as the Postmaster-General from time to time directs, paying on each registration such fee not exceeding five shillings as the Postmaster-General, with the approval of the Treasury, from time to time directs.

From and after the thirtieth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and seventy, registered newspapers, book packets, pattern or sample packets, and post cards, may be sent by post in the United Kingdom, at the following rates of postage:—

On a registered newspaper, not exceeding with any supplement, or with any cover, six ounces in weight, one halfpenny. On a book packet or pattern or sample packet:—If not exceeding two ounces in weight, one halfpenny. If exceeding two ounces in weight, for every additional two ounces or fractional part of two ounces, one halfpenny.

Mr. Watkin Williams has given notice that, in the committee on the Post Office Bill, he will move in clause 8, line 5, to leave out "a registered newspaper," and to insert "a packet consisting of one or more registered newspapers." The effect of the amendment will be to extend the halfpenny postage to any packet of registered newspapers not exceeding six ounces in weight.

EXTRAORDINARY NEWSPAPER HOAX.

ON the 9th ult. *Figaro* perpetrated a "sell," which took in at least one half of Paris. It came out with an announcement that M. de Villemessant had sold the paper for several millions to the Revolutionary party, and contained, with an article from Rochefort, a poem from Victor Hugo, letters from Ledru Rollin, Georges Sand, Garibaldi, and the usual clap-trap of the *Marseillaise* and *Rappel*—all shams every one of them, but so clever and so like what the people of the *Marseillaise* and *Rappel* are in the habit of writing, that the hoax would probably have been unanimously accepted as genuine but for a note in the corner of the paper intimating that it was meant for a take in.

The *Echo* says, of this remarkable freak:—

"M. Villemessant, the proprietor and editor of the *Figaro*, will gleefully think this evening how he has 'sold' not only Paris, but the *Times*, as well as an occasional correspondent of our own. The *Figaro* yesterday appeared to have been purchased by the Republicans. There was a galaxy of brilliant forgeries, ending with the names, real or assumed, of the Republican leaders. M. Villemessant, so lately in the full confidence of the police as to the recent 'plot,' appeared to have consented to edit a paper, in which he was accused of taking bribes. A *Figaro* may not consider himself accountable for such conduct, but the journal has of late taken an important political position, and M. Cernuschi might well be credited with the desire and the ability to make so grand a purchase for the Republican interest. If they do not manage things better in France, they certainly arrange them differently from our English method. It is but a few days ago since the proprietor of *La Presse* published a letter, saying that the distinguished editor of that journal had

vacated his chair because he, the proprietor, M. Mires, having received no favour from the Minister of Justice in his matters before the Law Courts, intended to requite M. Ollivier accordingly. It is now said that M. Villemessant issued his budget of forgeries with the same object, to show the Government how 'nasty' he could be."

It appears that the *Figaro* hoax "took in" Imperialists and Republicans alike. It is said that over 150,000 copies of the paper were rapidly sold.

ODDITIES IN ADVERTISING.

(From the *Illustrated Midland News*.)

It is a trite saying, "that one half of the world do not know how the other half live;" and, it may be surmised, that many readers of these pages are ignorant as to the manner in which many thousands of their fellow countrymen and countrywomen earn their livelihood by bringing amusement to delighted audiences. By such of our readers the purely theatrical newspapers are, probably, unknown; yet, a perusal of their columns would open out a new vista of existence; and a glance at their advertisements would reveal phases of character of which they knew as little as though they had been Dr. Livingstone's newly-discovered tribe of Troglodytes in Ruia. Here is that respectable newspaper, *The Era*; run your eye over its advertisements, and you will have a glimpse of the following characters. Here are leading ladies, singing chambermaids, first old men, juvenile gents, gentlemen for the heavy business, heavy men, scene painters to act, property men to work lime light, walking gents, juvenile utilities, ladies for heavies and old women, burlesque ladies, columbines, first low comedians, jig dancers, versatile comics, young lady pianistes for respectable free and eases, serio-comics for musical bars, good niggers, female Christys, walking ladies to sing between the pieces, first-class negroists, super ladies, trick clowns, champion duettists, excoelsior gymnasts, flying wonders, female acrobats, sensation marvels, and a crowd of people whose assumed titles convey to ordinary minds very inadequate ideas of the accomplishments for which the individual performers may be distinguished. Here, for example, is a "Refined Cancan Dancer," who "is open for a turn;" and a lady and gentleman who term themselves "The Rollicking Couple: the Genuine Article;" and here, too, is a person who wants, not a rollicking couple, but, "A Steady Man and Wife, to work an Exhibition of a Fat Girl—a carriage to live in, and wages 30s. a week. Also a Man to exhibit a Six-legged Horse." To many of us, these announcements are as full of mystery as is that column in the same newspaper, headed with the word "Buffaloism," and recording the doings of "The Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes."

EDITORIAL WOES.

(From *Charles's Wain*.)

No one pities an editor; he is regarded by the ignorant as an awful sort of literary incarnation, wielding exorbitant powers over the fate of correspondents and contributors, and influencing public opinion in no slight degree. Once on a time such an ideal may not have been far from the mark, but now, when periodicals are hurled by hundreds at the devoted pence-possessing public, the influence of individual organs is daily decreasing, and editors will soon be as common as costermongers; indeed, even now, most journals are really slaves to their supporters: for instance, if the *Daily Budget* ventures honestly to oppose some insane popular caprice or favourite immorality, it finds its circulation rapidly affected, and the pen-holding hand chilled by unpopular but generous efforts; the editor must then either desist from his attempt, or change to an exactly opposite tack,—which is scarcely decorous, though not an uncommon occurrence.

A VOICE FROM THE CHEAP PRESS.

(From the *Northern Echo*.)

THERE is one other of Mr. Lowe's Budget proposals we are inclined to believe he will not insist upon—that of the proposed tax on the cheap Press. As he has exhibited a disposition to

deal fairly with wealthy railway companies, so we trust he will not turn a deaf ear to pleadings on behalf of the poor man's privilege—the cheap newspaper.

At first sight—the proposed reduction of the postage on newspapers from one penny for four ounces to one halfpenny for six ounces appears to be an extraordinary concession to the Press and an incalculable boon to the public. But it is not so. The injustice and partiality of the proposal are more easily demonstrable in this case than in that of the intended alteration of the railway-tax. Both seem to benefit the poor man, while in reality they do nothing of the kind. On the contrary, the halfpenny newspaper stamp will prove a positive loss to the poor man, while conferring a benefit on the rich one. The large high-priced papers will enjoy a remission of taxation; the small cheap papers will have a new tax imposed upon them. Under the present regulations four ounces of newspaper or newspapers can be posted for one penny, that is to say, several small (poor men's) papers—in the case of this modest sheet, for instance, as many as five or six, according to the quality of paper used—can now be posted for one penny. Under the new regulation the postage of *each* paper will be one halfpenny. In our case, the cost of one pennyworth of postage will be raised to twopence halfpenny or threepence. Again, a large number of the London and provincial daily and weekly papers can now be posted in twos and threes for one penny. Under the new arrangement, an additional burden will be thrown upon them in either case. In cases where only two can now be posted for one penny, there will be an imposition of extra cost for wrapping and directing, extra labour, and extra risk from loss of stamps in transit; while, in cases where three papers can now be posted for one penny, an additional charge of one halfpenny will have to be paid. All the London dailies, the provincial "double" numbers, and even the great *Scotsman*, weigh very little over two ounces. Each of these will have to pay the same sum for the postage of each paper as the London *Times*. The tax on the threepenny newspaper will be no higher than that on the penny or halfpenny paper. Regular subscribers to the *Times* will be charged threepence postage for their week's eighteenpennyworth of news, while the regular reader of a halfpenny paper will have to pay threepence postage for his threepenny worth of papers. The Post Office will, moreover, be put to far greater expense on behalf of the *Times* than for any other paper. Not only is the heaviest of the daily papers transmittable at the minimum charge proposed, but it is carried greater distances than other papers. Provincial papers, especially, circulate at the most over three or four counties, while the *Times* is posted to the uttermost ends of our Islands. The boon proposed to be conferred by Mr. Lowe is therefore clearly not upon the readers of cheap, but of dear newspapers, not upon the poor but the wealthy, not upon the many but the few; for vast as is the circulation of the *Times*, what is it when compared with that of the hundreds of cheap newspapers that have sprung up since the removal of the taxes on knowledge? One other point. If it be argued that a Liberal Government ought to consider the interests of the public by favouring the spread of knowledge and avowed Liberalism through the most powerful medium, the obvious question occurs, "Why tax the country to transmit the advertisement sheets of the *Times*?" This, in point of fact, would be the result of Mr. Lowe's concession to the Press. The *Times* would be able to send by post a number of sheets of advertisements and news, equivalent in weight to two, four, or six other papers, at the cost they would have to incur for each separate one. This, we humbly submit, is neither just nor reasonable, and we venture to hope that Mr. Lowe will revise his proposition. Six ounces of newspaper or newspapers—(weight not number)—may, we honestly believe, be conveyed through the post, at a profit to the revenue and undoubtedly to the benefit of the public.

THE "COVENTRY STANDARD" has changed hands. The number for the 18th of June contains a notification that the paper has long been carried on with pecuniary success by a company. Times have now altered so as to render it undesirable for a company to undertake the management of a newspaper, and the paper has been transferred to Mr. F. J. Webb, who has long been on the staff of the paper. The politics of the paper, which are Conservative, will remain unchanged.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, June 24.

THE most interesting and important topic of the day is the bill for punishments of the Press, which has formed the leading subject for the editorial pens of all parties in this city during the whole of the month, and even now is far from being settled. As far back as the 25th ult. the Legislative Assembly brought their discussion to an end, and passed the last articles of the bill, making at the same time some important modifications. Thus in art. 34 of the bill as amended by the special committee for that purpose, the period of limitation in which Press prosecutions must be commenced is reduced from three years down to six months, being the time fixed by the law of 1819. This appeared to Jules Brame and Haentjens too long, and Wilson moved an amendment which was supported by Simon and Picard, fixing the utmost delay at one month. But the motion was lost on the division by 130 votes to 77, and the period remains as settled by the commission. Art. 35 also underwent a modification in the sense of an amendment moved by Lefevre-Pontalis, by which the prohibition to report Press trials is repealed, but it imposes on the journals the inconvenient and burdensome obligation in such cases either to reprint, as in the Parliamentary reports of the debates in the Legislative Assembly, the full length stenographic report of the trial, or an analytical summary drawn up with the concurrence of, and signed by, the President of the Jury Court. This measure of compulsion was strongly opposed by Jules Simon, who maintained that it was more particularly in the interests and to preserve the independence of the judges, that political and Press offences were to be tried by juries, and now it was proposed to clothe the President with a power that obliged him to take a subjective view of the case in drawing up his report. The law was fortified with quite sufficient securities against incorrect reporting of trials, and just the liberty of the Press stood bail for the absence of such abuses, as also that any falsified reports would redound to the discredit of newspapers making them, for they must necessarily lose their *prestige* for truthfulness and reliability, if they have to retract to-morrow what they said to-day. He could not allow there was any analogy with the debates in the Legislative Assembly, because in this case the reports were most admirably drawn up by a set of schooled and experienced journalists, with a chairman nominated by the Assembly itself, whilst the President of the Jury Court was simply a paid official in the employ of the Government. But these powerful arguments had no weight with the Assembly, and Simon's amendment was negatived. Jules Ferry, with the concurrence of the commission, proposed to add after the 37th and last article a clause empowering the jury in delivering their verdict in Press trials to be guided by extenuating circumstances, and to introduce a scale of reduction in the penalties, which was agreed to by the Assembly.

When the new Press law had thus passed the Lower House it was sent up to the Senate, where it still is under consideration. In the meantime the former took into their hands the subject of the stamp duty on newspapers, and brought in a bill of their own, which was referred to a committee to report on. Among other things it was proposed that the new law should come into operation on the 1st of January, 1872, but the committee recommend to shorten the period by a whole year, which makes it the 1st of January next. To this M. Segris, the Minister of Finance, objected on account of the anticipated deficit in the revenue, and laid on the table of the House a new Ministerial bill. M. de Jouvencel, in a state of great excitement, said that the new bill must be discussed in committee at the same time as the other one, and that it was indecent conduct of the Government to pass over in silence and ignore the labours of the committee, for which expression he was called to order by the President. The Minister observed that so far from giving any cause of offence, his new bill was conciliatory, and a proof of the sincere desire of the Government to meet the views of the Assembly half way. The chief features of the bill are as follows: The obligation to pay

stamp duty for all newspapers and periodicals, whether political or literary, and whether published in Paris or in the country, shall cease on January 1, 1872, as far as their editorial contents are concerned. For those Paris papers that contain advertisements the stamp duty for the year 1871 to be reduced from 5 to 4 centimes per exemplar, and in the provincial Press from 2 to 1 cent., so that the latter is placed at a greater advantage than the metropolitan. In the sitting of 13th inst. M. de Tillancourt brought up the additional report of the committee on the Newspaper Stamp Bill, from which it appeared that four votes were in favour of retaining the original bill with the amendments proposed by the committee, two for the Government bill, with the proviso that it become law on the first of January next, and three for the Government bill unconditionally. The general debate was fixed for the 15th inst., but it took a totally unexpected turn, in consequence of an amendment moved by M. Dréolle, a member of the Extreme Right and in opposition to M. Ollivier, who proposed a compromise, which was agreed to after a short conversation with the Minister of Finance and the committee. According to this new arrangement, it was agreed that the final discussion of the principle of the bill should be postponed till next year, and in the meantime the following transitory measures to take effect: On the 1st of January, 1871, the stamp duty on political journals and periodicals to be reduced one centime, and totally repealed on non-political ones. On the other hand the postage on printed matter, including circulars and prospectuses, to be increased one centime. This last item gave rise to a lively debate, in which Garnier-Pagès, Bethmont, Pelletan, and Granier de Cassagnac expressed themselves totally opposed to this increase of postage, which would be felt as a great inconvenience by the commercial classes, and Garnier-Pagès pointed out that it was by no means certain that this increase of postage would be accompanied by a corresponding augmentation of the receipts from that source. However, the question was carried by 128 to 78 votes, and then the whole amendment of M. Dréolle passed by 164 to 3 votes.

M. Garnier-Pagès has moved a resolution in the Legislative Assembly on the subject of the admission of foreign journals into France; it was referred to a committee to report on, and the result is that they unhesitatingly recommend the unconditional free admission of all such as are printed in a foreign language, but propose some salutary check over those published abroad in French. This exception has special reference to the Swiss and Belgian Press.

A meeting of the editors and representatives of the provincial newspapers was held here last week, at which it was agreed to memorialise the Minister of Finance against the principle of charging one uniform rate of postage for political and non-political journals, as also to protest against the proposed advertisement duty.

Several journals of this city have announced the sale of the proprietorship of *La Liberté*, but have given conflicting accounts of the particulars. Having made special enquiries on the subject, I believe myself justified in saying there can be no doubt that M. de Girardin has sold the property in question under certain conditions, but the contract has not yet been perfected nor the transfer made. The sale was effected through the instrumentality of M. Leonce Detroyat (a nephew of M. de Girardin) to an association or joint stock company for the sum of a million francs, and that gentleman will become the general manager with a totally new editorial staff. The political colour of the paper under the new management cannot but be favourable to Government, as it will support the policy of M. Ollivier. I must, however, add, that M. de Girardin has reserved to himself the right of cancelling the agreement if he should not have received his expected nomination to be a member of the Senate by the 2nd of July.

M. Clemens Duvernois, hitherto the editor of *Le Peuple Français*, and who is believed to stand very high with the Emperor, and—formerly at least—to receive his instructions by personal communications from his sovereign, has been relieved of his editorial duties and is succeeded by M. Auguste Vitu, who undertakes the political editorship of the paper. Various reasons have been assigned for this change, some saying that it was made at the instigation of M. Ollivier, against whom Duvernois

wrote violent diatribes; others maintaining, and certainly with more show of reason, that it was a spontaneous act of volition on the part of His Majesty. Certain it is that M. Rouher, the former Minister of State, who is the proprietor of the journal in question, has been making violent but unavailing exertions to allow Duvernois to be reinstated as editor. His disgrace was not altogether unexpected, as a few days previously he was grievously attacked in the columns of the *Moniteur*, which, though no longer the official organ, is a staunch supporter of M. Ollivier, and is considered a well-informed and even semi-official journal.

Paris has been mystified by the announcement of the sale of the *Figaro* to an Italian named Cernuschi for the sum of two—some even said three—million francs. But it appears to have been only meant for a joke, though it was so widely circulated and generally believed, that in the course of the day several hundred subscribers applied at the office for a return of their subscriptions paid in advance.

After several organs of the provincial Press have been tried and severely punished for publishing the apocryphal proclamation of Prince Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, said to have been issued in 1848, but which it appears was not the case, the four Paris journals which first published it, and from which it made the round of the country papers, has also been prosecuted for the same offence. The delinquents were M. Barblieux of the *Rappel*, M. Caron of the *Réveil*, M. Peyrat of the *Avenir National*, and M. Vilain Landaiserie of the *Siccle*, who were all found guilty and condemned to a month's imprisonment and a fine of a thousand francs each.

The *Figaro*, in its usual jocular manner, sums up the state of the Parisian Press with the following *jeu d'esprit* :—

"*La France à son Réveil voyant les souffrances du Peuple et confiant dans l'Avenir en appelle au Pays et consulte l'Opinion Nationale; le Peuple Français, intelligent comme Figaro et brave comme un Gaulois, brise ses entraves et devient Constitutionnel. Il décrète l'Electeur Libre, la Reforme, le Droit, et l'Egalité. C'est le plus grand Evénement du Siècle. Le Progrès marche avec le Temps; mais pendant que les Débats retentissent à la Tribune du Parlement, que la Presse dévoile les abus à la Nation, l'ennemi menace la Patrie; alors, le Public s'alarme, l'Union s'établit, la Cloche sonne le tocsin, les tambours battent le Rappel, et nos invincibles phalanges chantent la Marseillaise à la barbe de l'Univers et promenant devant le Monde le drapeau de la Liberté.*"

AVANT-COURIER.

Ever since the announcement has been confirmed that Prevost-Paradol was going out to Washington as French Minister, the *petite Presse* and some of the revolutionary organs have been making him the target for attacks and innuendoes which are, doubtless, meant to be smart and sarcastic, but which are merely impertinent. Several of these *soi-disant* patriotic organs have set on foot a *canard*, to the effect that Paradol only got the appointment on condition of his writing an abject letter of devotion to the Emperor. I have reason to know that this is a vile falsehood—but I did not require the assurance. My own opinion is that Paradol has made a mistake in abandoning his natural element, the Press, for diplomacy. As a political critic no one has equalled him in France since the days of Paul Louis Courier, and his diplomatic aptitudes have yet to be tried.—*Standard Correspondence*.

Le Figaro gives what it evidently believes to be the true story of the dismissal of the editor of *Le Peuple Français*. M. Clément Duvernois was the editor of that journal; the fact of his dismissal has been published in most of the journals of Europe, and everywhere attributed to his attacks upon M. Ollivier, both in the *Corps Législatif*, of which he is a member, and in the columns of *Le Peuple Français*. *Le Figaro* of to-day says the fact is that the dismissal was made by the Emperor himself, at the instance of his Minister. We are told that "at the council of Ministers, where M. Ollivier sat next to his Majesty, the Emperor whispered in his ear, 'M. Clément Duvernois shall be no longer editor of *Le Peuple Français*.' The next day the thing was done." Certainly all the circumstances support this statement.—*Echo Correspondence*.

With regard to the late sale of the *Liberté*, it is stated that M. de Girardin stipulated that no important political personage

should be called in to wield the editorial *bâton*. He desires the seat to remain virtually vacant, in order that he may at any moment remount the tripod, and amuse the public with his diurnal ideas. So you see there is some hope of having our old familiar friend back again.—*Echo*.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, June 25.

A new law on the Press is at present in course of preparation in the Ministry of the Interior, which, it is expected, will be ready in time to be laid before the next Landtag. The suppression of the stamp on newspapers is under consideration, and though the Administration of Finance will probably have some objections to urge, it is hoped that it may be found consistent with the plans of the Minister of that department to satisfy the public wishes by removing the tax in question.

According to official statistics 60,000 copies of American newspapers come yearly to North Germany.

At Hanover a new agricultural paper has been started under the name of *Die Harte*; it is published by the proprietor of the notorious *Nienburger Landes-Zeitung*, and is also written in the Guelphic interest, and, as is supposed, supported by Guelphic funds.

A Press prosecution has been commenced on no less than thirteen different counts against the editor of the *Wasserstrasse* for libels on Count Itzenplitz, the Prussian Minister for Trade and Public Works. The *Wasserstrasse* is a lately established organ for promoting and improving water communication on the rivers and canals in Germany, and is published at Berlin. I have just been reading the incriminating articles, and I must confess there is a *prima facie* good case for a prosecution, as the Minister is accused in very violent terms of wantonly neglecting those interests in favour of railways. The trial is to come on about the middle of next month.

Dr. Alexander Meyer, hitherto one of the editors of the *Berliner Allgemeine Zeitung*, has been appointed secretary-general of the German Mercantile Association, a post for which he is well adapted, being known as a powerful writer on subjects connected with political economy.

According to the decision of the Standing Committee, the fifth annual meeting of the Congress of German Journalists will be held this year at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, on the 3rd and 4th of July. The circular announcing this resolution and inviting the attendance of the members, contains also a list of the subjects that will be brought forward for discussion, subject however to alterations and modifications. As the list at present stands they are as follow: 1. The protection of the rights of authors; 2. Provision for aged and decayed journalists; 3. The advertisement and stamp duties, deposit of caution-money; 4. Press legislation and Press regulations; and 5. Proposed alterations in the rules and bye-laws of the Association. Questions and applications to be addressed to the Local Committee, 31, Eschenheimer Gasse, Frankfort.

The *Hansa*, a well-conducted weekly class paper, founded in this city about three years ago by the director of the Naval School for the purpose of disseminating nautical science and awakening a fondness and ambition for sea life, such as ought to exist to a much greater extent in this country, where such sacrifices have been made to create a national navy—though, hitherto all their ships have been purchased and built in England—has become the property (by purchase) of the German Nautical Union, and a change in the editorship has become indispensably necessary, owing to the appointment of the hitherto editor, Herr Alfred Tetens, to be harbour-master of this port. The editorial functions will in future be performed by a committee, composed of Dr. Breusing, Dr. Schumacher, and Herr Tecklenborg, of Bremen, Dr. Beumann, of Bremerhaven, and Herr von Freaden, the scientific director of the Marine Observatory here. The paper will continue to be published in this city, and the last-named gentleman will sign as the responsible editor.

Herr Friedrich Menck, the original founder, and hitherto editor and part proprietor of a local daily journal of this city, called the *Fremdenblatt*, has given up the journalistic profes-

sion, and is going to study jurisprudence and philosophy at a German university, on the completion of which he intends to return to his native city and practise as a lawyer here. The present editor is Herr Gustavus Diedrich, who is also the proprietor, publisher and printer of the paper.

At a gala representation of Spielhagen's new comedy of "Hans und Grete," which was performed last week at the Royal Theatre, at Berlin, under distinguished patronage, in aid of the funds of the charitable institution for the support of sick and superannuated journalists belonging to the Berlin Press, the net receipts amounted to considerably more than a thousand dollars.

The *Deutsche Industrie Zeitung*, founded by the late Robert Binder—whose death was contained in your last month's obituary—has been sold and become the property of the publishing firm of J. C. Pickenhahn and Sohn, at Chemnitz. The new editor is Herr Eduard Focke, said to be a gentleman of great attainments, but hitherto unknown in the German literary world.

A new illustrated humorous weekly has just appeared at Berlin, published by Messrs. Stilke and von Duyden. Its object is to give the outside world some insight into everyday life at the "Metropolis of Intelligence," in the different spheres and strata of society, some of which are very startling, and considered by strangers and the uninitiated as exaggerations and caricatures, which they are not. This new publication is called the *Berliner Bleck*, and the illustrations, which are admirably got up, are done by Arnold Neumann, a well-known and talented artist in that city.

Another illustrated paper has also just been published at Berlin, for the amusement and information of a somewhat different class of readers, and is called the *Illustrirte Deutsche Reise Zeitung*, being, as its name implies, intended for the travelling public. It is published by Franz Jahncke.

Dr. Strousberg, an enterprising railway contractor at Berlin, who has made an enormous fortune by successful speculations, has purchased for a large sum the extensive premises at No. 17, Unter den Linden, in which the business of his paper, *Die Post*, is carried on, with the intention of establishing a printing, lithographic and chromo-lithographic business there on a grand scale, as it is to be fitted up with no less than ten steam presses. It was lately reported that the doctor had purchased from the family of the late Baron Cotta, of Augsburg, the old institution of the *Allgemeine Zeitung*, as the business is about to be liquidated for family reasons; but the rumour is without foundation, and has even been formally contradicted by the proprietors of that journal.

RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, June 20.

A numerous signed petition from the inhabitants of several towns in Finland has been sent to the Emperor, praying for liberty of the Press and the abolition of the system of giving three "warnings" to the journals; but all they got for their pains was a severe snubbing, the Czar being of opinion that they enjoyed already quite as much liberty of the Press as was good for them. The answer was contained in an Imperial rescript forwarded through the Secretary of State for the Affairs of Finland to Count Adlerberg, the Governor-General of that Province, and ordered by him to be published in all the newspapers, that no one could plead an excuse for not being acquainted with the Emperor's views on the subject. He tells them their conduct shows great want of tact, is discreditable to themselves and offensive to their sovereign, and hopes he shall have no further cause of complaining of those deluded subjects who have lent too willing an ear to the machinations of a few unprincipled demagogues, and been imposed upon and duped by their plausible falsehoods. Strange to say, this ungracious reply of the sovereign has been received with marked signs of approbation by the Liberal organs of the Press in this city.

Russia is about to take another leaf out of the French book, for the Imperial Commission appointed for a revision of the existing Press law have concluded to recommend that every article published in newspapers and periodicals shall be signed by the

writer, and name printed. At the same time, the responsibility of the writers of such articles as give rise to Press prosecutions, as compared with that attaching to the editors and publishers, is to be more strikingly severe than under the present system.

The prohibition of selling in the streets—also the copy of a French invention—lately promulgated against the *Deutsche St. Petersburger Zeitung* and the *Neue Zeit*, has now been suspended.

COSSACK.

SWITZERLAND.

GENEVA, June 23.

The leaders of the Russian Socialist party living in voluntary exile in this city are very active and energetic in their endeavours to make propaganda. In addition to the resuscitated *Kolokol*, which now appears in French and Russian, they have lately established a second organ of their party under the title of the *Narodnoje Sielo* (National Affair), intended chiefly for the perusal of the educated classes in Russia and the endeavour to disseminate to a greater extent than hitherto their Socialist and Communistic principles. The first two numbers of this new paper, which is edited by the Russian emigrant Anton Trussow, have already appeared, and contain various things worth noticing. According to the programme published in the first number, the object of the Russian party is to promote and pave the way, in conjunction with the Socialist party, not only in Russia, but in all countries of Europe and America—for a general social revolution, by the simultaneous exploding of the mines prepared by the Proletarians. It further appears from the programme, that the Socialist party in Europe is perfectly organised and divided into National Sections, which are all in close connection with each other and receive their orders and instructions from one Head-Centre. The Russian party is also one of the National Sections, and has its own separate representatives at head-quarters. It is easy to perceive, from several hints and expressions contained in the various articles of the first two numbers, that the real centre of the European Socialist party is the International Trades Union in London, which has its connexions and branches in every capital in Europe and America. It is also worthy of remark, that the Russian Socialist party has inscribed as part of its programme the reinstatement of Poland in its former integrity and political independence, for it expressly says, "The yoke now weighing so heavily on Poland is such an obstacle to the social and political development of both Poland and Russia, that it must be destroyed by the social revolution." That the London International Union fully concurs in this part of the Russian programme, is perfectly clear from a letter published in the second number, and written by Carl Marx, the head of the German Section of the Union, on the occasion of the receipt of the above-mentioned programme, in which he distinctly says, "You might have added that the subjection of Poland and her being trampled on by Russia is the most pernicious obstacle, as it gave rise to the great military system now established in Germany and all over Europe. It is for that very reason that the Russian Socialists are working to break the chains that bind Poland, and contributing their united energies to the solution of the gigantic problem, which is to annihilate the military system now in force and thereby to liberate the Proletarians throughout Europe."

At the instance of Russia, who pressingly required the arrest of Netschajeff, a Russian residing here was captured and taken to prison; but the police authorities of this city did not feel justified in delivering him up till better proofs of his identity were produced, and have liberated him from confinement. It is however generally understood here that he is the real Simon Pure.

TELL.

BELGIUM.

The trial of *La Cote Libre* on a private charge of defamation of character, which came lately before the Jury Court at Brussels, ended in a verdict of acquittal, the result being received with a great manifestation of joy and satisfaction on the part of the numerous audience. M. Mandel, the editor of the above journal, was accused of libelling and insulting the Royal Procurator General Bayay and the Procurator Hody, by stating in an edi-

torial article that they were not in earnest in their mode of conducting the prosecution and examination of the witnesses in the affair of the Langrand Bank, and had purposely allowed M. Langrand to escape without the punishment he deserved, and taking with him his ill-earned wealth.

A new clerical journal has just been brought out at Brussels under the title of *L'Ere Chrétienne*, organ of the Secondary Clergy. It is published every Sunday, and edited by a committee of ecclesiastics under the direction of M. Pierre des Pilliers. The subscription price is fixed at 10 frs. per annum.

DENMARK.

Herr Carl Albert Willemoes, printer and proprietor of the *Vestalevisgsk Tidende*, a paper published in the Danish language and the Danish interests at Flensburg, has been prosecuted for want of respect to the King of Prussia in republishing an article that first appeared in the Copenhagen *Dagbladet*, and then at Paris in the *Opinion Nationale*. He was convicted of the offence and sentenced to three months' imprisonment, payment of costs, and the destruction of all the copies still on hand, containing the incriminating article.

AUSTRIA.

Vienna is a favoured city for journalists. The two editors of the celebrated *New Free Press* have each bought a palace on the Ringstrasse, the new boulevard of the Austrian capital, with the money they have made in their business. There are only thirty newspapers in the capital.

BAVARIA.

A weekly paper in the English language is to appear at Munich, entitled the *Munich Times*.

TURKEY.

The *Levant Times* was, on the 3rd ult., suspended for one month for reprinting an article from the *Independence Hellenique*, which was considered derogatory to the dignity of the Sublime Porte.

INDIA.

At length there is a ladies' newspaper in India, the *Bungo Mohila*, or *Woman of Bengal*, published at Calcutta in Bengali, and edited by a Hindoo lady.

SPAIN.

A meeting of the principal representatives of the Progressionist and Democratic organs of the Press was lately held at the residence of the President of the Cortes at Madrid, which was attended by the directors and editors of the *Novedades*, the *Imparcial*, the *Iberia*, the *Echo of Progress*, the *Revolucion*, the *Bridge of Alcolea*, the *Voice of Justice*, the *Nacion*, the *Independencia*, and the *Universal*, as well as the President of the Cortes and the leading members of the Junta of the Majority. After the object of the meeting had been explained by Don Ruiz Zorilla, he invited the representatives of the above-named newspapers to state their opinions on the resolutions passed at the previous meeting, with which they all complied in their turn. They then proceeded to vote on the principal question at issue, and the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—"The undersigned representatives of the Madrid Press, in conjunction with the President of the Cortes and the Directing Junta, unanimously agree to the fusion of the Progressists and the Democrats. Both fractions shall for the future form one single and united party, to be called the Progressistic Democratic Party." This is the third manifesto of the sort that has been published within the space of a few days, as the leaders of the Minority disavowed the late declaration of the Republican Press, by a counter declaration of great length. The Moderados are about to publish a manifesto of their aspirations and political creed.

CENTRAL ASIA.

The first newspaper in Central Asia has just been issued in the city of Tashkend, in Turkestan. It is called the *Türkistanskaja Vjedomosti* (Turkestan News), and will contain articles in three Tartar dialects, as well as in the Russian language.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, June 15.

I am heartily sick of writing about Press quarrels, yet have I to relate another, which commenced in the reporters' gallery of the Senate and has been claimed as public property. Mr. Hutchins, formerly lieutenant colonel in the Northern Army, was vigorously abusing the "rebels,"—kicking the dead corpse of the South, when Mr. Washington, a reporter on the *World*, and New York correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, took up the cudgels on the side of the Confederacy, in which he had held the post of Assistant Secretary of State. This led to a challenge from the Northerner, hotly accepted by the Southerner, but the appeal to arms was prevented by the failure of their utmost efforts to obtain seconds. So the quarrel has, I believe, been amicably arranged.

You will have seen by the papers that M'Farland was acquitted of the murder of Richardson. I did not write to you, as I wished to avoid speaking of the course taken by respectable members of the Press, who, simply because Richardson was one of their body, were indecently clamorous for M'Farland's blood. It was ghastly to hear their panther cries, and sickening to read their attempts to justify Richardson's conduct and whitewash his character. Let it all be forgotten as soon as possible.

Punchinello has steadily improved during the few weeks of its existence, and its general excellence has seriously annoyed the croakers who are fond of prophesying the speedy failure of every attempt at establishing a first-class satirical paper in America.

SOL.

Colonel Van Horn, Member of Congress from Missouri, has purchased the interest of the late Colonel Wilder in *The Kansas City Journal of Commerce*.—An Illinois newspaper appears with three blank columns, headed "Special Notice: These columns are reserved for those merchants who ought to advertise."—The *Anti-Slavery Standard*, which for many years has been advocating the cause of the coloured people, as a weekly journal, has been changed into a monthly magazine, entitled "The Standard; a journal of Reform and Literature."—George Wilkes, editor of the *New York Spirit of the Times*, has received from the Emperor of Russia the grand cross of the Order of St. Stanislaus, as a recognition of the suggestions made to the Russian Government in reference to the overland railway to China by the way of Russia. Mr. O. F. Oatman, for many years connected with the newspaper Press of New York, has become associate editor and proprietor of *The Sunday Courier*.—Captain J. H. Johnson, formerly connected with *The Louisville Courier*, and extensively known as "Yuba Dam," died at Lexington, Kentucky, May 12. —The *Public Record*, a penny morning newspaper, was started in Philadelphia, May 14, by William J. Swain, a member of the Associated Press. The *Minneapolis Mirror* is the title of the new evening paper started in Minneapolis, by Charles H. H. Sweetzer, who founded the *Round Table*, the *Evening Gazette*, and the *Evening Mail*, of New York. It is light and gossip in style.—*Anglo American Times*.

The Philadelphia *Public Ledger* has now a daily circulation of 72,500 copies; and the value of the establishment is estimated at three million dollars. It was started by three journeymen printers, without capital. Mr. George W. Childs, its present proprietor, has probably had more complimentary notices printed about him than any other man now living.

AMERICAN JOURNALISTIC ELOQUENCE.—Once more at the helm, we fear no storms, no thunder, no billows. The winds may roar and surge, and in wild mad career upheave the political ocean until her discoloured depths are seen, and bear mountains high with wild confusion the billows and the billows' spray. From cloud to cloud the rending lightning may rage, and until the heavens appear one broad sheet of fire, and the torrents pour in unbroken floods, a solid mass. The ocean may rage,

and her billows strive to reach the very heavens; yet, safely, proudly, fearlessly, will we steer our staunch storm-tossed barque until we have anchored in the placid waters of the harbour of Constitutional Liberty.—*Louisiana Eagle*.

One of the effects of the M'Farland trial was to set most of the New York dailies by the ears, and has led to some changes in editorial management, the most important of which is the succession of Mr. Louis Jennings to Mr. Sheppard's place as chief editor of the *New York Times*. Mr. Jennings is an English gentleman of culture, though to him is ascribed the attacks on Mrs. Calhoun Runkle, which added such fuel to the editorial flame. It was in consequence of his inability to stop this that Mr. Sheppard left, as he had to stand as a target for the enemy's battery, while he could not direct his own. Mr. Jennings was formerly connected with the *London Times*, and married the celebrated actress Miss Henriques, who is said to have been the wire-puller. Mr. Theodore Tilton, of the *Independent*, and Mr. Hugh Hastings, of the *Commercial Advertiser*, keep up their little fight with spirit, and Hastings has bound himself to assail the flanks of his opponent on sight. But the new *Standard*, and its rival the *Sun*, have outdone the others; Mr. Young and Mr. Dana carrying their personalities so far as to call for the rebuke even of the *Tribune*. Indeed, when the big journals have to witness the spectacle the little ones make of themselves while thus giving vent to their wrath, the effect is sobering, and both the *Tribune* and the *Times* have moderated their expressions. The *Star*, hearing the general snarling around, broke in on the side of the *Standard*. The *Tribune* accuses Mr. Richard Treadwell of dogging Mrs. M'Farland, Richardson, and a lady and gentleman, when walking home, to pick up their conversation; also with attempting to bribe a compositor to give him a sheet containing Mrs. Richardson's statement; and it rather chuckles as it adds that a piece of an old weekly with a new heading pasted on, was sold to the defrauded *Sun*. The latter journal replied that the editor named had been employed by the *Tribune*, and in proof produced its cheque to him; but the *Tribune* denies that it had been drawn or paid by it; though it asserts that many editors of the "Tammany Twinkler," as it nicknames the *Sun*, have at one time or other had its cheques, which have even reached negroes in Liberia. The *World's* part in this free fight has been to gather up all the crumbs of quarrel and to make them into a pudding, for all these amenities of journalism have by that wicked paper been collected and reproduced.—*Anglo American Times*.

On May 24th, the office of the *St. Louis Republican* was burnt to the ground. The loss is estimated at 160,000 dollars. The office of the *Die Westliche Post*, opposite, was badly scorched by the flames. The publication of the *Republican* was not suspended by this misfortune, the enterprising proprietors issuing a small sheet the following day, and subsequently continuing the publication of the paper as heretofore.

It is said that within a few years, one hundred newspapers have started and failed in Chicago, and that 700,000,000 dollars have been sunk in journalistic failures in New York.

It is proposed to erect a monument to the late George D. Prentice, at Louisville, Ky.

The *N. Y. Ledger* is probably the only periodical in the world that does not print advertisements, but relies wholly upon its circulation for its profits.

MR. ISAAC HARR, formerly the publisher of the *Round Table*, is about to issue a new weekly literary paper, to be called *At Home and Abroad*.

NEW PAPERS.—*Weekly Blade*, Tyrone, Pa.; *Free Trader*, Pontiac, Illinois (weekly); *Democratic*, eight columns; A. L. Bagby, editor. The *Chieftain*, Cambridge City, Ind. (weekly); *Democratic*; Hull & McCauley, proprietors and editors. *Public Record*, Philadelphia, Pa. (daily); The *Bee*, Philadelphia (daily).

CANADA.

A special correspondent of the *Toronto Globe*, who is on his way to the Red River Territory, or Manitoba, as it is now called, writing from Fort Abercrombie, on April 25, says:—"To-morrow

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. CHARLES DICKENS.

The public were on the 10th of June shocked by the announcement that their favourite, Charles Dickens, had died the day before. The sorrowful event was so sudden—a stroke of paralysis, which ended mortally after four and twenty hours of insensibility—that the readers of the morning papers were quite unprepared for news of which the evening papers had given them no warning; and it is no exaggeration to say, that in many English homes there was a feeling as if an actual presence had been withdrawn, and the world left dull and dark.

It would be presumptuous and unnecessary in us to write the memoir of one in whose honour so many able men have been only too proud to employ their pens; and, in fact, the principal events of his life have been so affectionately watched by the public, as to have become almost as familiar as his own "household words." We shall therefore content ourselves with a record of his career as a journalist. We have one or two letters from him on newspaper history, which we may perhaps publish in a future number.

Charles John Hougham Dickens (the two intermediate names being from some fancy never used by him) was born on the 7th of February, 1812, at Portsmouth, his father being Mr. John Dickens, once a clerk in the Pay Department of the Navy, but who, at the close of the war, retired on his pension, and came to London as a newspaper reporter. After being educated at Chatham, Charles Dickens was articled to a solicitor in Bedford-row, and reminiscences of his office life are to be found in the doings at Dodson & Fogg's, and through the pages of "Copperfield" and "Bleak House." But he did not take kindly to the law, and, having acquired the mysteries of shorthand, soon obtained employment as a reporter. His first engagements were on the *True Sun* and the *Mirror of Parliament*, but he soon joined the staff of the *Morning Chronicle*. The late Earl of Derby, then Lord Stanley, had on some important occasion made a grand speech in the House of Commons. This speech, of immense length, it was found necessary to compress; but so admirably had its pith and marrow been given in the *Morning Chronicle*, that Lord Stanley sent to the office requesting that the gentleman who had reported it would wait upon him at his residence in Carlton House-terrace, that he might then and there take down the speech in its entirety from his lordship's lips, Lord Stanley being desirous of having a perfect transcript of it. The reporter was Charles Dickens. He attended, took down the speech, and received Lord Stanley's compliments on his work. Many years after, Mr. Dickens, dining for the first time with a friend in Carlton House-terrace, found the aspect of the dining-room strangely familiar to him, and on making enquiries discovered that the house had previously belonged to Lord Derby, and that that was the very room in which he had taken down Lord Stanley's speech.

It is a mistake to suppose that Dickens's earliest writings appeared in the *Morning Chronicle* under the editorship of Dr. Black. Dickens first became connected with the *Morning Chronicle* as a reporter in the gallery of the House of Commons. This was in 1835-36, but, as we have already said, he had been previously engaged, in his nineteenth year, as a reporter for a publication entitled the *Mirror of Parliament*, in which capacity he occupied the highest rank among the eighty or ninety reporters for the Press then in Parliament.

But it was in the *Evening Chronicle*—the evening edition of the *Morning Chronicle*—that the first of the wondrous creations of his fancy, the "Sketches of Life and Character," appeared. The following is a list of his subsequent works, in the order in which they appeared—"The Pickwick Papers," "Oliver Twist," "Nicholas Nickleby," "The Old Curiosity Shop," "Barnaby Rudge," "American Notes for General Circulation," "Martin Chuzzlewit," "Pictures from Italy," "Dombey and Son," "David Copperfield," "Bleak House," "Hard Times," "Little Dorrit," "A Tale of Two Cities," "Great Expectations," "Our Mutual Friend," "The Uncommercial Traveller," and then came "Edwin Drood." His smaller stories were his Christmas ones—such as "A Christ-

mas Carol," "The Cricket on the Hearth," "The Chimes," "The Battle of Life," "The Haunted Man." He was also the author of a "Child's History of England." Dickens was also the first editor of the *Daily News*, and established *Household Words* and *All the Year Round*, of which his son Charles Dickens is now editor. Dickens was one of the founders of the Guild of Literature, and was an ardent advocate of reforms in the Literary Fund. As an accomplished amateur performer and a wonderfully dramatic reader his fame has long been great.

On the 14th of June the newspaper reporter, who in the modesty of his heart declined the highest honours which a sovereign, surpassing all her predecessors in a just appreciation of true worth, laid before him to take his choice from, was by the universal voice of the people claimed from his family, and borne to a grave among the illustrious dead of a thousand years. Whether the honour were greater to the memory of Charles Dickens, than to the old Abbey and the honoured dust beside which he lies, we do not venture to say.

MR. J. H. HARTNOLL.

On the 6th of June Mr. John Hooper Hartnoll, of Bexley House, Greenwich, died, in the 71st year of his age. The deceased gentleman, immediately upon the passing of the Reform Bill of 1832, constituting Greenwich a parliamentary borough, started the *Kentish Mercury* newspaper, of which he remained the sole proprietor and editor up to the time of his demise. Besides conducting the above newspaper the deceased was well known among the insurance world, not only in this country, but abroad, as the proprietor and editor of the *Post Magazine and Insurance Monitor* and the "Post Magazine Almanac and Insurance Directory."

MR. CYRUS REDDING.

A NAME familiar in the world of journalism and general literature for more than half a century has become a memory of the past. Cyrus Redding has gone from among us at the ripe age of eighty-five. Of a Worcestershire stock, he was born at Penryn in Cornwall in 1785. It is nearly seventy years since he first commenced writing for the Press, his earliest effort being an "Epitaph on Sir Ralph Abercromby," who was killed in Egypt in 1801; yet some "copy" which is now before us, written only a few months before his death, is singularly small, clear, and steady, though his hand and eyes had been almost constantly employed for seventy years. To give a list of his writings would occupy some columns of our journal. His first regular contributions were published in the "Weekly Entertainer," a Sherborne periodical of the beginning of the present century, for which he also wrote the story of "Cephalus and Procris," which he versified from Ovid. His first London engagement was on the *Pilot* evening journal in 1806, which he relinquished to start the *Plymouth Chronicle*, of which he was both editor and proprietor for some years. He was editor of *Galignani's Messenger*, when the allies were in Paris. He was subsequently associated with Campbell in the editorship of "Colburn's New Monthly Magazine," and to the last he continued to write occasional papers for its pages. We first remember him in connexion with our own maiden efforts in the "English Journal," an enterprising weekly magazine started by How and Parsons, of Fleet Street, in 1843, to which Miss Mitford, Mrs. S. C. Hall, Horace Smith, Dr. W. Cooke Taylor, Walter K. Kelly, James Augustus St. John, and George Hogarth (whose recent death it was our painful duty to record), were also contributors. In the course of his long career he was closely acquainted with Monk Lewis, Dr. Walcott ("Peter Pindar"), Topham, Sheridan, Canning, Sir Walter Scott, Wilson ("Christopher North"), Hogg (the "Ettrick Shepherd"), De Quincey ("The English Opium-Eater"), Thomas Moore, Campbell, Sismondi, Schlegel, Cuvier, Lockhart, Shelley, De Stael, Beckford, Adam Czartoriski, Santa Rosa, Langier, and many more of the distinguished and prominent men of the century. William Jerdan, his junior, but whose circle of literary acquaintances was nearly as wide, wrote to us a few months before his death, "I should like to see what my old chum, Cyrus Redding, is writing in the NEWSPAPER

PRESS." The "old chum" was then giving our readers some personal recollections of his old Press associates, but Jerdan took exception to the anecdote he gave of the Ettrick Shepherd. The series, only interrupted by the pressure of matters of temporary interest, is now finally sealed by the hand of death; and the last writings of Cyrus Redding are preserved, all uncompleted, in the first three volumes of the NEWSPAPER PRESS.

It is strange that his standard work should have been a "History of Wines," which passed through many editions, as well as subsidiary or collateral volumes on "The Wine Countries." At the time of his death he was preparing a new volume, bringing down his history to the revolution occasioned by the recent alterations in the wine duties, which have brought so many new descriptions of "the divine juice" into the London markets.

In a note recently written to us and now before us, Redding thus speaks of this work:—"I have two works nearly ready for the Press—indeed one is so; the second is a continuation of my 'History of Wines' from 1833, when I concluded my last work, which has gone through two 8vo and two 12mo editions, and is now stereotyped; yet there have been more changes about wine since 1831 than for a hundred and fifty years before. My other work is ready; indeed, has been for some time—a year or more—but I wait for a document I want to see before it comes out, else it might appear. It is a 'History of the Reign of William the Fourth.' These have occupied me a long time." He also established the *Bath Chronicle* in 1834, the *Staffordshire Examiner* in 1836, and many other papers at various times.

Among his principal works are "Velasco, a Novel;" "Fifty Years' Recollections, Literary and Personal" (1858), "Reminiscences and Memoirs of Thomas Campbell" (1860), "Yesterday and To-Day" (1862), "Past Celebrities whom I have Known" (1865), and "Men of the Press," contributed to this journal during three years.

A Midland journalist reminds us, before we close this too brief notice, that among the multitude of journals edited by our departed friend was the *Warwick Advertiser*.

Cyrus Redding aspired also to be a poet, and was a sonnet writer of no mean powers. He died at his residence in Hill Road, St. John's Wood, May 30th.

MR. W. B. UPCOTT.

With feelings of deep sorrow we announce the unexpected death of Mr. William Braddon Upcott, the proprietor of the *Wolverhampton Chronicle* and the *Midland Counties Express*, from an attack of apoplexy, which took place on the night of the 18th ult. Mr. Upcott, who had been slightly indisposed for some weeks, had not long retired to rest for the night, when the sound of a heavy fall proceeding from his bedroom was heard by his nephew and the housekeeper. They instantly proceeded up stairs, and a surgeon was immediately sent for, and found Mr. Upcott lifeless. Mr. Upcott, who was a native of Devonport, had been associated with the Press nearly forty years, having been previously connected with the *Gloucestershire Chronicle* and the *Staffordshire Advertiser*. He had been part, and afterwards sole, proprietor of the *Wolverhampton Chronicle* for nearly twenty-five years, and it is only due to him to state that the great extension of the circulation of the *Chronicle* is mainly owing to his spirited exertions. He also evinced his quick perception of the newspaper requirements of the district by establishing, about nine years ago, the *Midland Counties Express*. Indeed his tact, energy, and perseverance were remarkable. He was highly sensitive with regard to the character of the Press, earnestly desiring that the information it communicated should be accurate, its reports truthful, and its comments unswayed by political or religious predilection. In public matters, otherwise, he took no part. In private life kindness and generosity were his leading characteristics; and never was an appeal from any one in want or affliction disregarded.

ACCORDING to Mr. Andrew Halliday, in his letter to the *Aberdeen Free Press*, the Earl of Sefton has, it is said, abandoned the further prosecution of the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* for its libel on his wife.

Home Subjects.

"THE OBSERVER" has been sold for £5000 to Baron Erlanger, the eminent French financier.

MR. GEORGE HODDER and Mr. Allen, both of the *Morning Post*, and Mr. Hunt of the *City Press*, met with a severe accident lately, by the upsetting of a private four horse "drag" in Richmond Park. Mr. Hodder's skull was fractured and Mr. Allen much injured; but both gentlemen, we are happy to hear, are slowly approaching recovery.

"THE LEEDS MERCURY" has a new editor. The gentleman, Mr. T. Reid, son of a worthy Independent minister at Newcastle-on-Tyne, who for some time acted as London correspondent of the paper in question, assumed the post vacated by the retirement of Mr. Baines.

RELEASE OF AN IMPRISONED EDITOR.—Mr. Hugh Shimmin, editor of the Liverpool *Porcupine*, who was, as reported in our last, sentenced to one month's imprisonment as a first-class misdemeanant, was on the 2nd ult. released. Mr. Shimmin was conveyed from Kirkdale Gaol in an open carriage, under the escort of a large number of his friends and admirers. On arriving at the *Porcupine* office, in Cable-street, there was a strong manifestation of popular feeling, and the released editor was immensely cheered. The street was dressed with flags and streamers, and the office of the paper was gaily decked. The Liverpool public have subscribed about £500 over and above Mr. Shimmin's costs.

"THE SHIELD" is the title of a new paper which describes itself as "The Anti-Contagious Diseases Acts Association Weekly Circular." It is printed and published at South Shields. We have received No. 13 for "Monday, May 30th," and No. 14 for "Tuesday, May 31st." How is this?

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.—It was stated in the *Athenæum* last month, that the secretaryship of this Fund is vacant. This is not quite correct. The office will not be vacant till the 4th of September.

MR. E. DICEY'S letters from Egypt, descriptive of the opening of the Suez Canal, written for the *Daily Telegraph*, have been reprinted in two volumes, under the title of "The Morning Land."

THE *West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser*, an old established county newspaper, started we believe in 1810, has during the past year become a bi-weekly issue, sending out on Tuesday morning an edition in 20 columns, containing, besides other matter, all the London markets—corn, cattle, &c. (in addition to its Thursday's issue of 48 columns), at one halfpenny. This we are informed has already attained a circulation of 5000 copies weekly.

A TESTIMONIAL, in the shape of a handsomely bound set of books, was presented recently to Mr. Richard Gowing, by members of the editorial and reporting staff of all the Exeter newspapers, on the occasion of his leaving Exeter for Birmingham to edit the *Illustrated Midland News*, under the condutorship of Mr. Joseph Hatton, proprietor. Mr. Gowing had been for three years assistant editor of the *Exeter Gazette and Daily Telegraph*, and was previously on the staff of the *Ipswich Journal*. Mr. Edward Legge retires from the staff of the *Illustrated Midland News*, and makes a literary tour in Germany and Belgium.

THE "COMIC" FEVER IN IRELAND.—Rumour has it that Lord Newry intends to start a penny comic weekly paper in Dublin, entitled the *Knight Errant*. The cartoon on the frontispiece will show a modern Don Quixote in the full armour of the period, and will be engraved on tinted paper. A fourth periodical of the same sort, called the *Shillelagh*, is likewise, I hear, in contemplation, as is also a work styled "Major Slingsby," or "The History of a Daily Paper," in which a certain gallant major, the proprietor of one of our most largely circulated and influential Irish dailies, will come in for some hard knocks from one of his late employees, with whose fame the Law Courts recently rang.—*Echo*.

SALFORD does not choose to take all its news from its bigger sister, Manchester, and so a new daily paper is to be started in the twin borough, to be called the *Salford Chronicle*. It will be the organ of the extreme Orange section of the Conservative party.

AN attempt is being made to revive the National Irish Press—a committee of Irishmen having been formed for re-establishing in London the *People of Ireland*, to advocate "Ireland's inalienable rights to National Independence."

"THE ESSEX HALFPENNY NEWSMAN."—We have received a copy of a paper with this title, which appears to have made its first appearance with the current year. It issues from the same office as the *Chelmsford Chronicle* and the *Essex Herald*, and its publishing day is Saturday. It contains a serial tale.

MR. S. ROGER SMITH has relinquished the editorship of the *Architect*.

"THE CAB AND OMNIBUS NEWS" is the title of a paper devoted to Jehu and Jarvey which made its first appearance on May 28th.

Notes and Queries.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.—Although we have for some months in succession printed four pages in excess of our ordinary number, we are so far in arrear with *accepted* contributions, that we are compelled to request that no articles which are not of a *temporary* interest may be sent in, unless the writers are prepared to wait several months for their insertion. We are as desirous as ever of receiving articles of interest, but unless they bear upon subjects of the day, we cannot guarantee a speedy publication. It is therefore by no means to be inferred that contributions that *will keep*, though they may not have been formally accepted, are, from the delay in their insertion, necessarily rejected. But subjects of pressing interest and importance must obviously have precedence. Just now there is a revolution passing over the system of Journalism which we are bound to note to the exclusion of matters more to our taste.

THE FRANKLIN SOCIETY OF CHICAGO.—The editor of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* has much pride and pleasure in acknowledging the unexpected honour "unanimously" conferred on him by this society. A reply to the complimentary letter accompanying the intimation has been sent by mail.

FAIR PLAY.—We have long been aware that the publication in question systematically reproduces our own original articles and items with slight verbal alterations, but not the smallest word of acknowledgment. We agree with our correspondent that this is not according to the code of professional etiquette established and observed by journals of a higher class, and—to quote his own word—is somewhat "cheeky,"—but let it pass. Without such a breach of manners, our contemporary would sadly "lack originality."

J. B. F.—The *NEWSPAPER PRESS* can be seen regularly at Peele's Coffee House, Fleet Street; the Old Cheshire Cheese, Wine Office Court; Deacon's News Rooms, Leadenhall Street; and Lawless's News Rooms, Philippot Lane.

P. DON.—Mrs. Oliphant is at present writing a tale for the *Glasgow Star*, a halfpenny daily paper, but we are not aware of any more intimate connexion of that prolific authoress with Journalism.

F. E. G.—We can only insert the "Observations" in the form of an advertisement at our scale price. The space at our command for subjects of general interest to the Press is just now sadly overtaxed, and much valuable matter standing over.

Obituary.

BARRETT, COLUMBUS, proprietor of the *Holly Springs Reporter* (Missouri), 29th April.

BOGHEAMP, DR. HEINRICH, sub-editor of the *Berlin New Preussische (Kreuz) Zeitung*, at Berlin.

DICKENS, CHARLES, author of the "Pickwick Papers," &c., and the first editor of the *Daily News*.

FOUCAULD, AUBRY, for forty years *gérant* of the *Gazette de France*, at Montreuil, near Paris.

CUBITT, FRIEDRICH WILHELM, the mentor of German Journalists, at Berlin, aged 91.

HARTNOLL, J. H., June 6th, many years proprietor and editor of the *Kentish Mercury*.

JOHNSON, Capt. G. H., formerly of the *Louville Journal*, 12th May.

KIMBERLEY, CHARLES W., a well known reporter on the American Press, and for the last 16 years connected with the *American*, at Baltimore, June 1st, aged 45.

KUMPEL, A. F. M., printer of several of the local journals, at Hamburg.

LITTELL, ELIAHIM, founder of the *National Recorder* of Burlington (New Jersey), and of *Littell's Living Age*, of Boston, at Brookline, Massachusetts, on the 17th May.

PLEASANTS, HUGH R., first editor of the *Richmond Dispatch* (Virginia), 27th April.

RAGHLEIGH, F. F., of the editorial staff of the *Cleveland Herald* (W. S. A.).

REDDING, CYRUS, for nearly seventy years connected with English Journalism, as editor or contributor.

STEVENS, R. W., nearly forty years correspondent of the *Times*, at Plymouth, aged 64.

UPCOTE, WILLIAM, proprietor of the *Wolverhampton Chronicle*, and the *Midland Counties Express*, on the 18th June.

WICKLIFF, Hon. C. D., for 27 years editor of the *Lexington Observer and Reporter* (Kentucky), aged 60.

PUBLISHING ARRANGEMENTS.—IMPORTANT TO AUTHORS.

MOFFAT AND COMPANY, State Publishers and Agents for the Dublin Steam Printing Co., beg to announce that they have resolved to CHARGE NO COMMISSION for PUBLISHING WORKS PRINTED BY THEM until the Author has been refunded his original outlay. They would also state that THEY PRINT IN THE FIRST STYLE GREATLY UNDER THE USUAL CHARGES.

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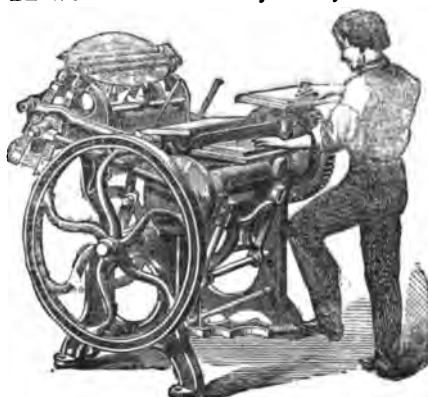
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TESTIMONIALS.

81, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

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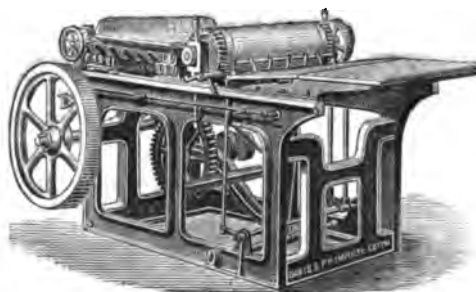


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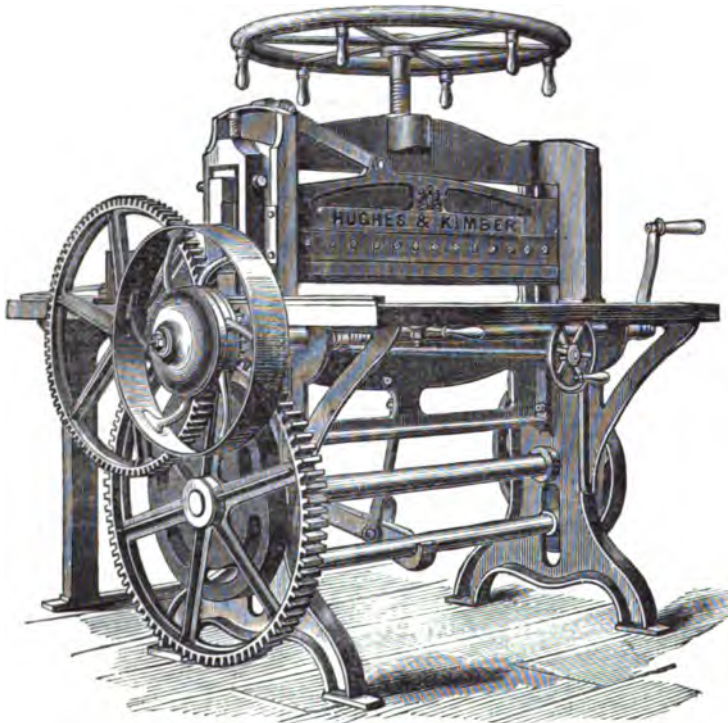
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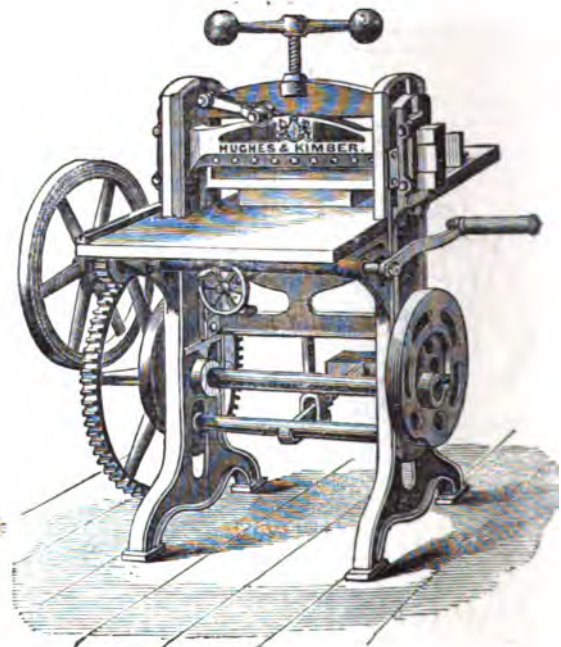
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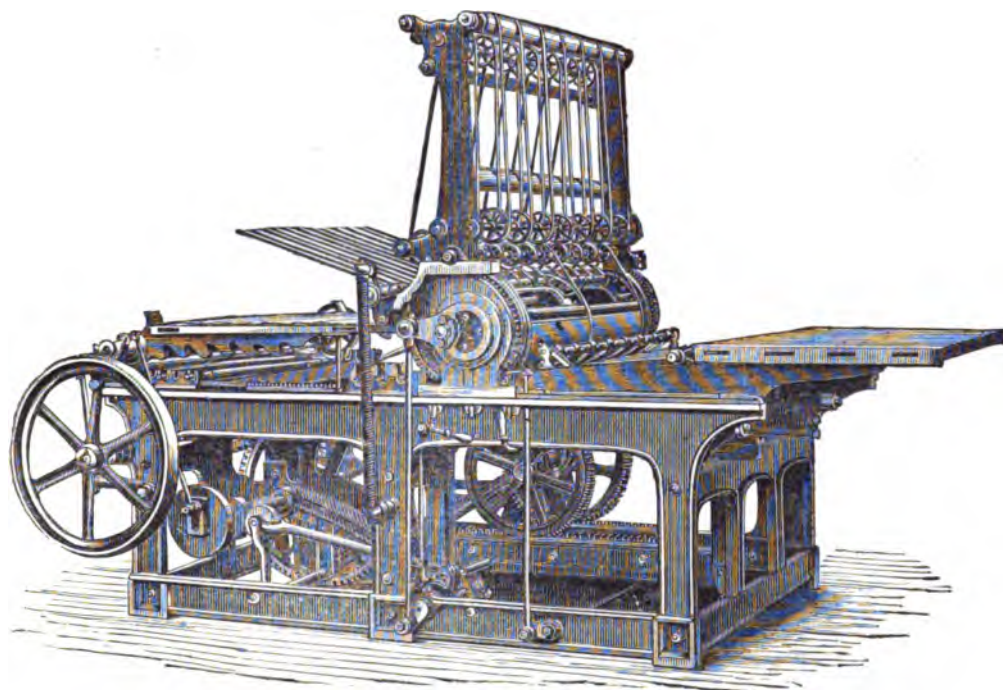
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Notes and Queries.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.—Although we have for some months in succession printed four pages in excess of our ordinary number, we are so far in arrears with *accepted* contributions, that we are compelled to request that no articles which are not of a *temporary* interest may be sent in, unless the writers are prepared to wait several months for their insertion. We are as desirous as ever of receiving articles of interest, but unless they bear upon subjects of the day, we cannot guarantee a speedy publication. It is therefore by no means to be inferred that contributions that *will keep*, though they may not have been formally accepted, are, from the delay in their insertion, necessarily rejected. But subjects of pressing interest and importance must obviously have precedence. Just now there is a revolution passing over the system of journalism which we are bound to note to the exclusion of matters more to our taste.

THE FRANKLIN SOCIETY OF CHICAGO.—The editor of the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* has much pride and pleasure in acknowledging the unexpected honour "unanimously" conferred on him by this society. A reply to the complimentary letter accompanying the intimation has been sent by mail.

FAIR PLAY.—We have long been aware that the publication in question systematically reproduces our own original articles and items with slight verbal alterations, but not the smallest word of acknowledgment. We agree with our correspondent that this is not according to the code of professional etiquette established and observed by journals of a higher class, and—to quote his own word—is somewhat "cheeky"—but let it pass. Without such a breach of manners, our contemporary would sadly "lack originality."

J. B. F.—The *NEWSPAPER PRESS* can be seen regularly at Peele's Coffee House, Fleet Street; the Old Cheshire Cheese, Wine Office Court; Deacon's News Rooms, Leadenhall Street; and Lawless's News Rooms, Philpot Lane.

P. DOX.—Mrs. Oliphant is at present writing a tale for the *Glasgow Star*, a halfpenny daily paper, but we are not aware of any more intimate connexion of that prolific authoress with journalism.

F. R. G.—We can only insert the "Observations" in the form of an advertisement at our scale price. The space at our command for subjects of general interest to the Press is just now sadly overtaxed, and much valuable matter standing over.

Obituary.

BARRETT, COLUMBUS, proprietor of the *Holly Springs Reporter* (Missouri), 29th April.

BOGEMAMP, DR. HEINRICH, sub-editor of the *Berlin Neue Preussische (Kreutz) Zeitung*, at Berlin.

DICKENS, CHARLES, author of the "Pickwick Papers," &c., and the first editor of the *Daily News*.

FOUCAULD, AUBRY, for forty years *gerant* of the *Gazette de France*, at Montebureau, near Paris.

CUBITE, FRIEDRICH WILHELM, the mentor of German journalists, at Berlin, aged 91.

HARTNOLL, J. H., June 6th, many years proprietor and editor of the *Kenilworth Mercury*.

JOHNSON, Capt. G. H., formerly of the *Louisville Journal*, 12th May.

KIMBERLEY, CHARLES W., a well known reporter on the American Press, and for the last 16 years connected with the *American*, at Baltimore, June 1st, aged 45.

KUMPEL, A. F. M., printer of several of the local journals, at Hamburg.

LITTELL, ELIAKIM, founder of the *National Recorder* of Burlington (New Jersey), and of *Littell's Living Age*, of Boston, at Brookline, Massachusetts, on the 17th May.

PLEASANTS, HUGH B., first editor of the *Richmond Dispatch* (Virginia), 27th April.

RASHLEIGH, F. F., of the editorial staff of the *Cleveland Herald* (W. S. A.)

REDDING, CYRUS, for nearly seventy years connected with English journalism, as editor or contributor.

STEVENS, R. W., nearly forty years correspondent of the *Times*, at Plymouth, aged 64.

UPCOTTE, WILLIAM, proprietor of the *Wolverhampton Chronicle*, and the *Midland Counties Express*, on the 18th June.

WICKLIFFE, Hon. C. D., for 27 years editor of the *Lexington Observer and Reporter* (Kentucky), aged 60.

PUBLISHING ARRANGEMENTS.—IMPORTANT TO AUTHORS.

MOFFAT AND COMPANY, State Publishers and Agents for the Dublin Steam Printing Co., beg to announce that they have resolved to CHARGE NO COMMISSION for PUBLISHING WORKS PRINTED BY THEM until the Author has been refunded his original outlay. They would also state that THEY PRINT IN THE FIRST STYLE, GREATLY UNDER THE USUAL CHARGES.

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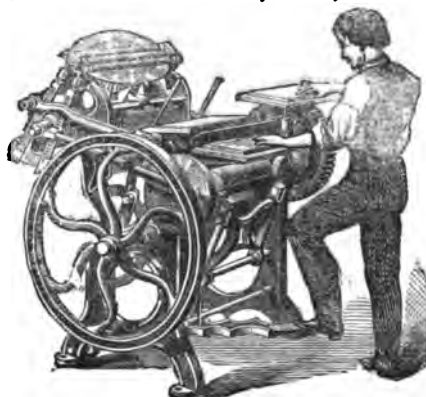
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Coventry, Oct. 18, 1867.

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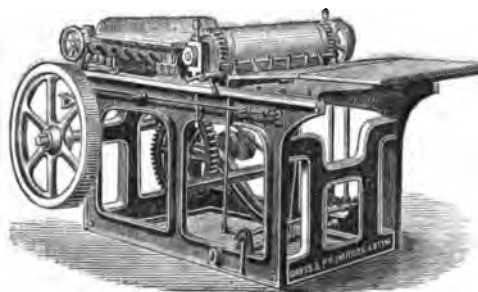


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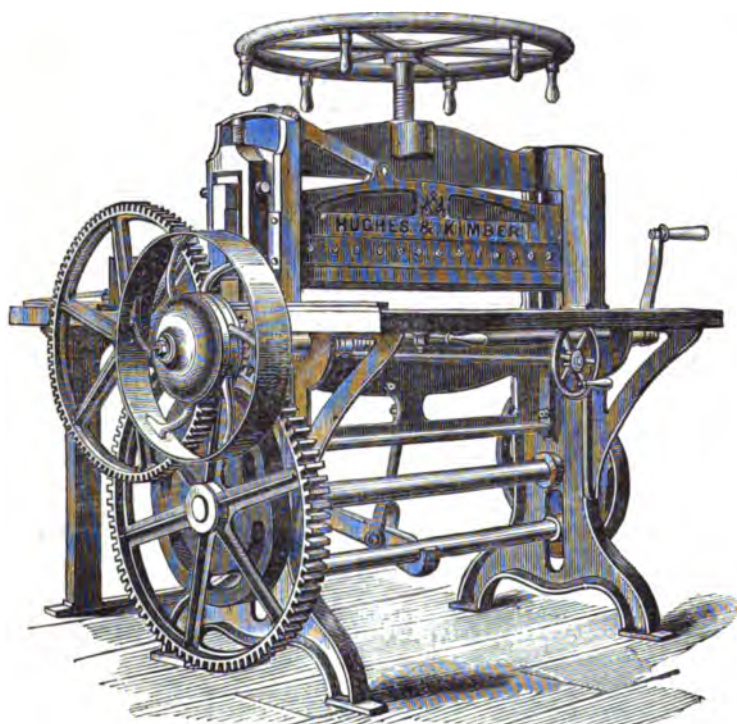
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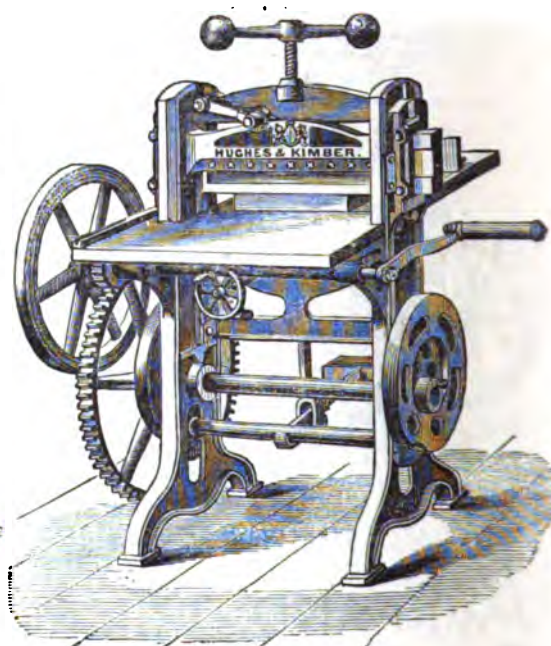
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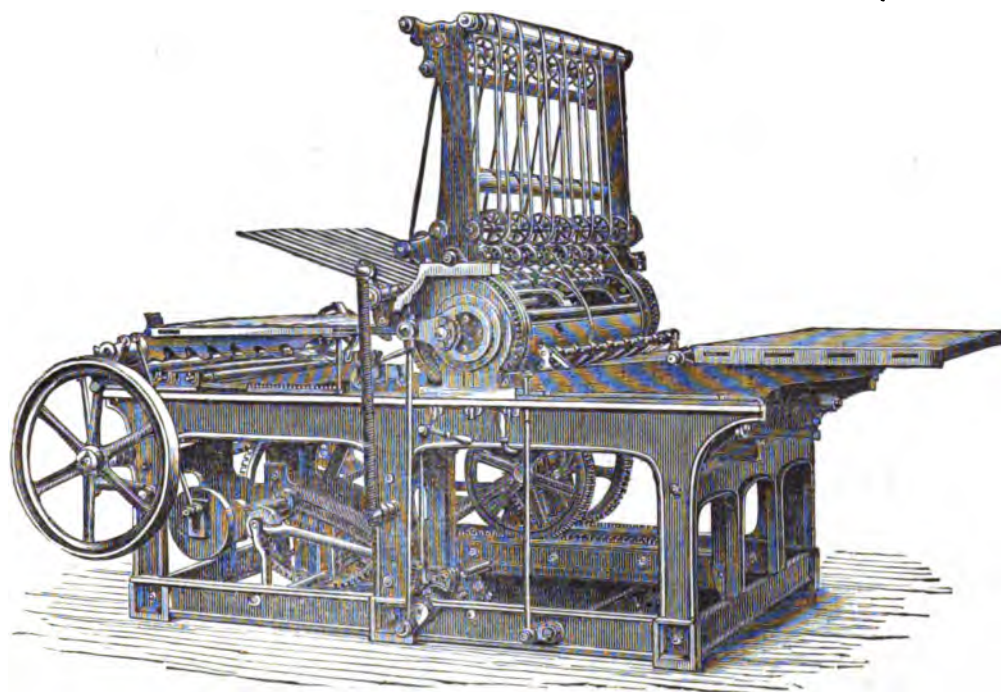
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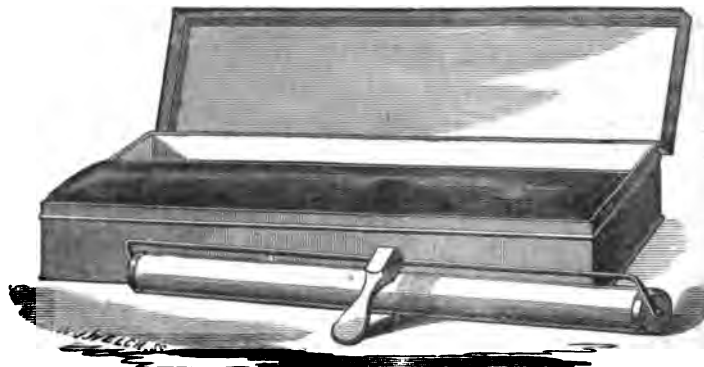
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and rendering unneces-
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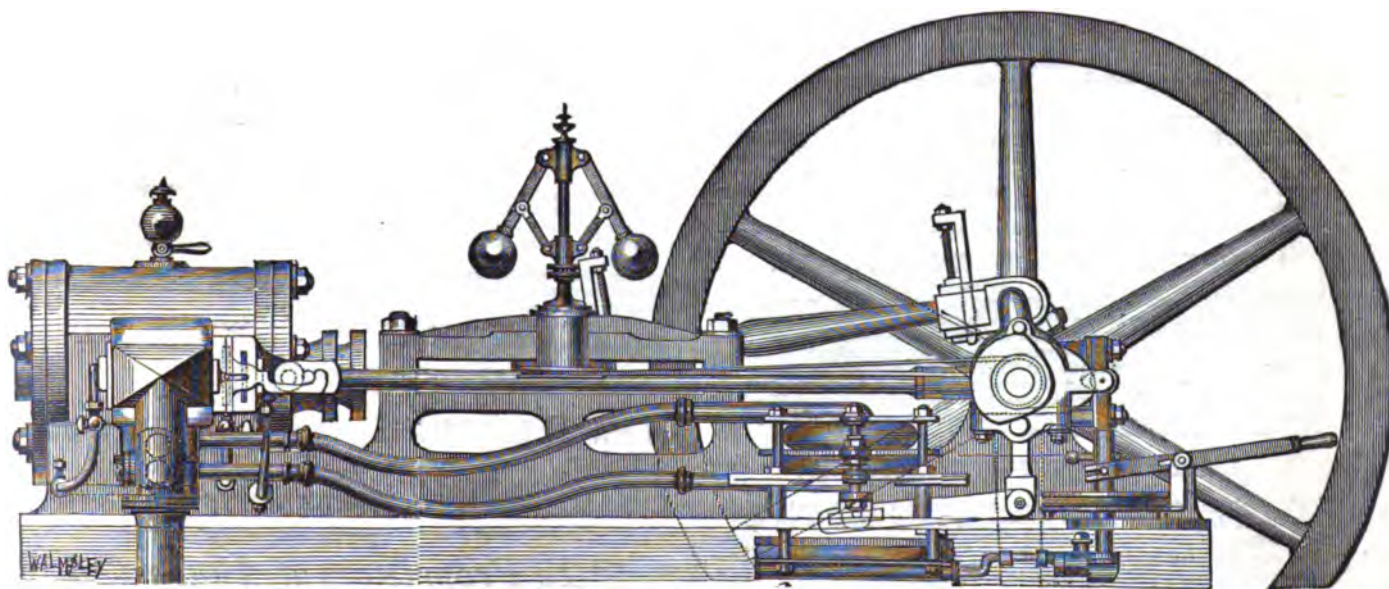
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JUST as the NEWSPAPER PRESS was about to be published last month, we received a copy of a circular purporting to have been addressed to each member of "The Provincial Newspaper Society," with reference to its expenditure, by "An Old Newspaper Proprietor, and one of the oldest Subscribers." The letter is one that demands an answer at the hands of those who have the management of the P.N.S. The facts set forth are startling if true, but unfortunately we have no guarantee of their truth. Indeed we are assured, and we know from actual enquiry, that the original subscription of 10s. 6d. per annum was raised to one guinea, only five years ago, so that it could not have remained at a guinea for upwards of twenty years. A lapse of memory may account for this, but certainly that excuse ought not to avail "An Old Subscriber," who overlooks the fact that the increased subscription was demanded in order that the dinner might be paid for out of the funds.

At the first glance it does seem "wasteful and extravagant to spend two thirds or thereabouts of the society's funds in eating and drinking; particularly when only a third of the members join the party," but we should not forget that the P.N.S. is somewhat of a social club as well as a trade society, and that several discussions have taken place with a view of making it a club entirely. In common fairness to the subscribers at large it ought to be either one or the other. A society of the rank and importance of the P.N.S. ought to be above suspicion; and far above the paltry idea of bribing its members to attend the annual meeting by means of an expensive dinner.

But we would take a broader view of the subject than the "Old Newspaper Proprietor" has done. It is a strange fact that the P.N.S. only receives the adherence of less than a sixth of the newspaper proprietors of the United Kingdom, and that not more than a third of these attend the annual meeting. We miss from the list of those who attend the annual dinners many of the most influential names connected with the Provincial Newspaper Press, and sometimes, on glancing over the monthly circulars and the annual reports, one is tempted to ask if the "work is worth the candle."

A great deal of money has been expended on the Libel Bill, but that has come to naught. It is shelved and dead. In asking for too much the P.N.S. have got nothing, and this agitation did much to exhaust the society's funds.

If we glance through the work done, we find that the P.N.S. have hardly taken an enlarged view of the operations, power and scope of the newspaper world. We have a vivid impression of the manner in which Mr. Taylor of the *Manchester Guardian* was browbeaten, when he solicited the aid and co-operation of the society in forming the active Press Association, after the P.N.S. had failed to establish a telegraphic association of its own.

There is one remarkable fact that "One of the oldest Subscribers" appears to have overlooked—that, whilst the subscription was only half a guinea, the number of subscribers increased very slowly indeed, and though the funds in the bank increased, the whole efforts of the society were confined to nailing defaulting advertisers to the door of the P.N.S., and to complaining of the low prices offered for advertisements. When the society decided upon raising the annual subscription to £1 1s., a permanent home was found for the society at the Salisbury Hotel, and certain privileges are given to members at that hostelry. The number of members has increased under the new régime, but the funds have declined, until the society finds itself obliged to appeal to the members for increased subscription, and is met by the circular in question.

With respect to the future, it is easy to foretell the fate of the Provincial Newspaper Society. It must be merged into the energetic Press Association, with its regular staff of officers to conduct its business. It will be an easy transition, and it will give tone to the association, while it will destroy the suspicion which attached to it on the part of the great majority of newspaper proprietors and employees. It may be unfair to allude to the subject, but there has been a warmly expressed opinion frequently given, that the members of the P.N.S. have frequently debated the question of reporters' salaries and the stipends of editors, but not with a view to their increase. This may be mere slander, but there is a strong feeling that this has been the case, and this feeling could not exist if the Press Association combined within itself the active work and watchful administration of newspaper interests in the United Kingdom.

Practically speaking, with the exception of the modification of the Libel Law, there now remains nothing for the Provincial Newspaper Society to do, save to resume its old functions of watching over defaulting advertisers and keeping up the prices.

The idea of the club will, however, continue to exist, and possibly something might be done on a broader footing in connection with the Press Fund to make this a tangible reality; or at least some existing literary club, which has the necessary accommodation, might not object to receive the country members during their periodical visits to town, and at the same time promote a more cordial feeling amongst all sections of the newspaper world.

"THE GRAPHIC."—On the completion of the first volume of this beautiful paper, the proprietors speak thus hopefully:—"They feel great pleasure in stating that the success which they have met with exceeds their most sanguine expectations. The *Graphic* is now established on a solid basis of prosperity; week by week the circulation steadily increases, while at the same time a continuous demand for the back numbers, proves that they are not laid aside as soon as they cease to be new, but are preserved as works of permanent artistic merit. Encouraged by the hearty appreciation which the public has from the outset displayed for the *Graphic*, the proprietors are resolved to redouble their exertions, and by constant improvements, both in the literary and artistic departments, to obtain, if possible, a still more triumphant success than that which they have already achieved."

THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PRESS.

VIII.—THE COUNTRY REPORTER.

THE duties demanded of the country reporter are very different to those of the Parliamentary reporter. The latter, though supposed to have an intimate acquaintance with the various subjects brought before Parliament, always has an opportunity of knowing the general tenor of the business before the House, and the topics which will be brought under discussion. If he can pass the preliminary ordeal and has had sufficient stenographic practice, his duties, though occasionally severe and arduous, do not demand that incessant activity, variety of resource, and peculiar items of general information, which are imperatively necessary in the reporter of a provincial journal of standing. There are reporters and reporters, as in other pursuits and professions, and though many veterans are ready enough to complain that during the past few years you miss the jovial, careless, yet clever "gentlemen of the Press" who belonged to country newspapers half a generation back, there is no doubt that the duties of a country reporter are as well performed as they have been since newspapers were newspapers. Doubtless, the increase which took place in newspapers some fifteen years ago introduced a number of very efficient shorthand writers, but very inefficient reporters, into the newspaper world, but these have either sunk into obscurity, or have become simply "liners" in large towns. A large number have taken to other pursuits, whilst others have striven and practised until they have attained a permanent and very respectable rank in their profession.

As the nature of the duties demanded of the reporter become better understood, those ambitious young gentlemen, who, on the faith of a slight acquaintance with Pitman's very excellent system of phonography, imagine that they have the key to unlock the gates of fame and fortune in the literary world are obliged to think twice ere they leave their native counters and shops, for the hard and well worn field of newspaper work. It is no doubt a seductive prospect to the looker on, to see the self-possessed reporter in the best seats of an entertainment, in the foremost ranks at a public assembly, in the most convenient position at a public dinner, waited on, feasted, and courted, whilst the outsiders are neglected, pushed, cuffed, and despised at fêtes, reviews, regattas, and festivities. The reporter is the cynosure of thousands of eyes; he passes lynx-eyed guardians of the public peace, the most crabbed of money takers. The Cerberus who guards the inmost recesses of the most private pleasure grounds welcomes him, and even old Charon would pass him over the Styx if he presented himself. But under that careless demeanour, suavity of manner, and courteous bearing, the reporter merely hides a sense of responsibility and a power of work for which the world gives him no credit whatever. When satiated pleasure seekers are going to their quiet beds, the country reporter, if he knows his business, is hard at work condensing the indefinable impressions of the day into coherent language and intelligible phrases. A thousand unnoticed phases of the day's proceedings are stored in his brain, or note book, and these when produced are combined into a harmonious chapter of local history, and form a picture of the time which future historians will treasure, and over which historians of the past may well utter a sigh of regret.

The power and influence of the newspaper reporter in the country varies with the locality and the individual. Occasionally a reporter will follow one who has been highly popular, or who has been disliked, and for a time he must bear a little of the odour of the ill-will which the latter has engendered, and in the other instance he may assume at once a portion of the popularity attached to his office, and, if wise, he will strive to retain it by courtesy, accuracy, independence, and impartiality. A notable instance of how differently a reporter's position is regarded in the same locality occurs to the mind. A young man of some experience on the Press was induced to accept the position of editor and reporter on a provincial journal of standing and repute. By an unfortunate mischance, two of his predecessors had left behind them an atmosphere of coldness and suspicion. The circulation of the paper was falling away, and the gentle-

man who had first vacated the post was building up a newspaper on the ruins of the property he had done much to injure. By care and attention the old country journal again became noted for its accuracy and impartiality, and at the end of three years the condemned reporter found himself a welcome guest in all the principal houses in the county—the poorer people trusted him with their complaints, and the influential inhabitants respected his uprightness and ability. On visiting the spot a dozen years after he had been called to other duties, he had the satisfaction of knowing the paper still enjoyed the prestige and popularity he had infused into its pages, and what was more, the proprietors acknowledged that they owed the very existence of their property to his quiet energy and sagacity. He found, however, that none of his successors could afford the county or the paper a good word, and even left it voluntarily to accept inferior positions elsewhere. Enquiries outside proved that no heart was thrown into the work; it was, therefore, imperfectly done, and the position of the reporter was impaired in consequence. The golden fruit left to be gathered was turning to ashes. A few hints to the gentleman then holding the position were turned to good account, and the old pleasantness and prosperity revived.

A recent case, just reported, shows how a reporter recovered £100 damages against a man who charged him with willfully garbling his reports, but this only shows the necessity for general impartiality and accuracy. The reporter loses his position if he becomes a partisan, and his power for good is impaired if he either reports twaddle, or indulges in tall talk. There are reporters in the country who often interlard remarks of their own into their reports, but this practice is to be highly reprehended, and is fatal to the character of the reporter who does it, as well as to the newspaper in which the report appears. The profession is not proverbially modest, for that charming virtue would be sadly out of place in a dashing reporter, but the absence need not necessarily lead to impertinent obtrusiveness or rudeness.

The duties of a country reporter can hardly be defined. He graduates in police and county courts. He is great at archery fêtes and flower shows. At agricultural dinners he responds in grandiloquent terms to the toast of the Press. At assizes and quarter sessions he is hard worked for a day or two. At the periodical meetings of boards of guardians, or common councils, he is a mighty individual. He is able to prompt the chairman, supply a missing link of evidence forgotten by the clerk, and is frequently appealed to by the members as to the occurrence of some matter of fact. The days of minute verbatim reporting are over to a great extent. More attention is paid to style, perspicuity, and clearness of expression, than to mere verbiage. A well written descriptive introduction, if not too stilted, or interlarded with too many quotations, is always satisfactory both to editors and readers. This, however, is frequently overlooked. A careless paragraphist rarely writes a good introduction, for what the sonnet is in poetry, a paragraph is in prose composition. It should be simple, clear, and distinct, and formed upon definite rules. Country reporters too frequently neglect the humble paragraph, though it is a curious fact, that some of the most popular papers in the provinces of Great Britain are filled with paragraphs almost exclusively. No one can take up the *Stanford Mercury*, for instance, without being struck by the number and pithiness of its "pars." *Saunders's Newsletter*, in Dublin, the *Limerick Chronicle*, one or two of the Scotch papers, and many others, furnish examples in point. The qualifications of a country reporter should be—neatness of paragraph construction, accuracy of facts, quick perception, a rapid and correct short-hand note, and good powers of condensation and analysis; courteous in bearing, simple in habits, temperate in discourse—in short, an accurate painstaking gentleman.

"REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD."—The following circular has been issued by the Post Office authorities, to all registered newspapers:—"Sir, I have to inform you that the registration of the publication named at the back of this circular for transmission abroad as a newspaper, will continue in force until the 30th September next, previous to which date a further notification will be issued. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, JOHN TILLEY."

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

NO. XIX. — PRIVILEGED REPORTS OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE MAGISTRATES.

HAVING in former Nos. noticed the principal cases relating to non-privileged reports of public meetings, we leave, for the present, others of that class—being of minor importance—and give here two modern cases of "privileged" reports arising out of proceedings in a police court. They were actions, tried at Westminster in the early part of 1867, against the *Times* and the *Standard*, at the suit of John Daniel Pinero, an attorney. These cases may be regarded as marking the progress which has been made by the Press within the last half century, in acquiring the privilege to publish matters of general public interest. In the case of "*Duncan v. Thwaites*," in 1824, the Court of Queen's Bench decided that it was no justification of the publication of libellous matter that such publication contained a correct report of proceedings which had taken place in the course of a preliminary enquiry before a magistrate. Lord Tenterden, then chief justice, said the defence in that case was founded upon the assumption that it was lawful for newspapers to publish reports of proceedings which took place before justices of the peace, by way of preliminary enquiry, when the proceedings terminated by commitment or bail before a trial could take place; but he pointed out what he considered the inconvenience and the mischievous tendency of such publications, which he said "had increased, were increasing, and ought to be diminished, or rather ought not to be sanctioned at all." Thirty-four years after this dictum of Lord Tenterden, namely, in 1858, occurred the case of "*Lewis v. Levy*," in which the same question was again dealt with by the Court of Queen's Bench, Lord Campbell sitting in the same seat in which Lord Tenterden had sat before him; and it was decided in that case that the publication of a fair and correct report of proceedings taking place publicly before a magistrate, on the preliminary investigation of a criminal charge, was privileged, provided that such investigation terminated in the discharge, by the magistrate, of the party accused. Lord Campbell distinguished the two cases by pointing out that in the case then before the court, the proceedings terminated in the discharge of the defendant, whereas in the previous case, before Lord Tenterden, the defendant was held to bail to take his trial before a jury. It has been remarked, however, in reference to this distinction, that it was not a sound one, and that it was taken only to avoid the appearance of directly overruling a previous decision of the same court. The same writer has also remarked that "by a process which is, in fact, legislation, although it is supposed to be only declaratory of existing law, the law of libel has been changed, to suit the change which has taken place in the ideas generally prevalent as to the utility of newspaper reports."

The complaint of Mr. Pinero, the party suing the *Times* and the *Standard*, was founded upon the reports which appeared in those papers of proceedings at the Clerkenwell Police Court, on the 23rd and 30th of November, 1866. On the former of those days, the plaintiff, Mr. Pinero, appeared upon summons before Mr. D'Eyncourt, the magistrate at the police court, to answer a charge of having "unlawfully, and by means of false pretences, fraudulently induced one Charles Fletcher to write his name to a certain paper in order that the same might be afterwards dealt with as a valuable security." The proceedings on that occasion were reported in the *Times* and also in the *Standard*, and it was stated in the reports that the magistrate had said "that if Mr. Pinero wished to act honestly in the matter, he would at once pay the money." It was also stated that Mr. Pinero had said he had offered the money, but it had been refused. The report also stated that the case had been remanded for a week to give an opportunity for a settlement to be made, and that Mr. Pinero had been permitted to go at large on his own recognizance in the sum of £100. The objection taken by Mr. Pinero to this report was, that it omitted part of the evidence taken before the magistrate, particularly that part which was favourable to Mr. Pinero's case.

This complaint had reference particularly to the *Times* report. The case coming on again on the 30th of November, the *Times* and the *Standard* each contained a further report, in which it was stated that the counsel for the prosecution had said "that acting under the suggestion thrown out by the magistrate, the defendant had paid the whole of the money-in dispute, and therefore the summons would now be withdrawn. Mr. D'Eyncourt allowed that course to be adopted, and the summons was discharged." This report was objected to by Mr. Pinero on the ground that it repeated the charge contained in the summons, after the case had been, in fact, settled. Mr. Pinero had demanded of the *Times* an apology and compensation, but this being refused an action was brought—"Pinero v. Goodlake."

The case came on for trial in the Court of Exchequer, before Mr. Baron Martin and a special jury, on the 6th of February, 1867. The learned judge, in submitting the case to the jury, referred to the judgment of the Court of Queen's Bench in the case of "*Lewis v. Levy*," which, he said, was exactly applicable to the present case, the question here being whether the report was privileged. Reports of judicial proceedings, however injurious, were privileged if honestly made. A distinction had formerly been made between preliminary proceedings before a magistrate, and proceedings before a judge and jury; but the law was now otherwise. The question, therefore, was whether the reports were impartial and correct—meaning by "impartial," fair between the parties; and by "correct," not verbatim, but in substance. The jury, after considering for about an hour, found a verdict for the plaintiff, with 10*l.* damages.

The case against the *Standard* was not brought on to trial before the 3rd of May, 1867. It was then tried before Mr. Baron Channell and a common jury, when a verdict was found for the defendant.

We may observe here, that these two cases brought into discussion, besides the point raised in the case of "*Lewis v. Levy*," the question contested in some of the old cases of libel, including the question in the case of "*Lewis v. Walter*," for a law report copied by the *Times* from a Hampshire paper, in which, instead of the evidence being reported, it was said, "The witness proved the allegations contained in the speech of the learned counsel." The then Lord Chief Justice of England, Sir Charles Abbot (afterwards Lord Tenterden), said, "The defendant ought to have detailed and transcribed in the publication the evidence of the witnesses. If a party is to be allowed to publish what passes in a court of justice, he must publish the whole case, and not merely state the conclusion which he himself draws from the evidence." Such was the ruling of the Lord Chief Justice in 1821. "Publish the whole case!" This reminds us of the Yankee guest at an American hotel, who, on being told by mine host "that he could have for dinner anything he pleased, from a pickled elephant to a canarybird's tongue," said "Well, I'll take a piece of pickled elephant," but was told "You'll have to take the whole-'un, 'cause we never cuts 'em."

DUTCH PIE.—In early life the late Mr. R. Harris of Leicester was employed upon the *Leicester Herald*, then conducted by Mr. (afterwards Sir) R. Phillips. It was at this date that an incident occurred, which is thus related by one of the local journals:—"On the eve of publication, an accident happened in the *Herald* office: it was no other than the "squabbling," or turning into "pie," or entire confusion, of the whole mass of letters constituting a column of that paper. Young Harris was the unlucky author of this catastrophe. What was to be done? The papers must be got ready for the post, or murmurs of discontent would come from subscribers in every quarter, far and near. A happy thought flashed across the mind of the ingenious Phillips. He instructed the printer to make up a column of standing "pie," jumbled together in "most admired disorder" as every letter was; and at the head of the perplexing conglomeration, he penned a notice to this effect—that just as the *Herald* was going to press an express from Holland had been received, which, being in the original Dutch, the editor had not had time to translate; but he promised an English version in the ensuing week's paper! It is needless to state that the translation never appeared; although, many years after the event, one of the *Herald* subscribers, living in a secluded village in Derbyshire, who had preserved the paper containing the Dutch express (and spent all his spare cash, in vain, over Dutch lexicons), gravely requested Sir R. Phillips to favour him with the promised translation.

PIONEER NEWSPAPERS OF THE WEST.

THE "KANSAS WEEKLY HERALD" was started at Leavenworth in 1854, with the following brilliant prospects of a circulation:—"The population of this city is as follows: 99 men, 1 woman, and 0 babbies. Total 100." And yet it had more than three columns of medical advertisements, of which one long one is directed particularly to the attention of ladies.

The editor thus describes the office arrangements of "the first paper printed in Kansas":—"Ourselves and our compositors have been, like the patriarchs of old, 'dwellers in tents' for the last two weeks. During that time we have had almost every variety of weather, heat and cold, rain and dazzling sunshine, mists, fogs, and thunder-storms. In addition to these duties and difficulties, we have packed wood, built fires, cooked for ourselves, fought musquitos and slept on prairie hay on the ground. We have at the same time superintended the building of a substantial office, which is now nearly completed, and done our best to entertain and give information to the crowds of visitors who have thronged our young city. Our selections have been made, our editorials written, our proof read, sitting on the ground, with a big shingle on our knee for a table."

THE "RANGOON CHRONICLE."—In the war between the United States and Mexico, while the invaders were toiling through a vast territory, almost without food, and incessantly attacked by the enemy, a press accompanied their march, and carried an account of their operations every week to every city in the Union, and on the day after they had entered Mexico, the editor with no small exultation issued his first number, "from the halls of the Montezumas." Of his travelling fraternity, he says:—"Our system does not quite permit of a press accompanying the army, but it is never far behind, and the decree of annexation frequently appears in print for the first time in the local journal. In obedience to this general law, Rangoon has now a *Chronicle*, and although, as the proprietors inform us, they have neither pressmen, nor any of the ordinary appurtenances of a press, the journal is out, and discusses municipal arrangements, as if it could already boast of half a century of existence."

THE "DESERT NEWS" was started by a Mormon editor at one of the settlements of that singular people west of the Rocky Mountains, to which region they betook themselves on their expulsion from the state of Missouri a few years since. The paper (of the 1st November, 1850) is a curiosity in its way, as much from the peculiarity of the articles and information conveyed, as from its dimensions. It is about the size of "Chambers's Journal," and consists of eight pages. No reader need be in any uncertainty as to the locality of the printing-office; for the editor heads his sheet with "lat. 40 deg. 45 min. 44 sec., 111 deg. 26 min. 34 sec.," closely followed by the announcement that the *Desert News* is "published every other Saturday at a charge of 2½ dollars for six months, if paid in advance, or 15 cents for single copy. The charge for advertisements of twelve lines is 1½ dollars for the first insertion, and 50 cents for each repetition. A list of agents succeeds, among whom is 'Bishop Holladay, and all the acting bishops in the city;' and subscribers are informed that the paper will be 'delivered at the post-office, which will be open each Sabbath from twelve to one o'clock P.M.'"

Presently we come to a "PATRIARCHAL NOTICE.—I take this method to notify the brethren of the city and vicinity, that I will attend to all calls in the line of my office hereafter, particularly on Saturdays and Mondays of each week; also on other days of the week when convenient. JOHN SMITH, Patriarch.

"N.B.—Office near the northwest corner of the Temple Block."

Then we have a "Proclamation to the Saints," or a "Word of Wisdom," particularly recommended "to the twelve high priests, seventies, elders, bishops, priests, teachers, deacons, brethren, and sisters." Wine is only to be used for the sacraments, and "this should be wine—yea, pure wine of the grape of the vine, of your make. And again, strong drinks are not for the belly but for the washing of your bodies. And again, tobacco is not for the body, neither for the belly; and is not good for man; but is an herb for bruises and all sick cattle, to be used with judgment and skill. And again, hot drinks are not for the body or belly."

Declarations follow in a similar strain concerning the uses of flesh, fruits, grain, and vegetables; a "saint" advertises that he is "going to leave the settlement, and may be absent for some years on a foreign mission: This is, therefore, to inform his debtors that he frankly forgives all debts due to him, and calls upon all persons who have demands against him to present them for payment on or before the 25th of December next, or ever after hold their peace, as he wishes his family, during his absence, to be free from such annoyances as duns, blacksmiths, cobblers, lawyers, sheriffs, and butchers' bills, &c. And should he live to return, he would like to rest in peace, without having old debts to stare him in the face."

THE "WISCONSIN MIRROR" of January 1st, 1855, thus announces itself:—"We are doing what, perhaps, has never been done in the United States before—we are printing the *Wisconsin Mirror* in the woods—not a dwelling, except our own, within half a mile of us, and only one within a mile! The forest oaks hang over our office and dwelling, the deer and rabbits are shy around us, and the partridges and quails seek our acquaintance by venturing nearer and nearer our doors. The noble Wisconsin is bearing onward its immense burdens of ice, majestically and silently, within sight of our windows, and the snow-capped hills, covered with scattered oaks and pines, peer up in the distance. There is romance and reality in all this, and we feel almost willing to publish a paper in such a location just for the excitement of the thing. But most of the romance is soon to be spoiled. Already several dwellings are in progress near us, and before many weeks they are to be occupied by enterprising neighbours; and, when spring and summer shall come, we expect such a clatter of axes and spades and trowels and saws and hammers, that we shall hardly be able to write our editorials without introducing more or less of the confusion. The fact is, we expect a large village—yea, a city—to grow up rapidly around us; and that is why we are here printing in the woods."

THE PARKVILLE "INDUSTRIAL LUMINARY."—The following is a narrative of the premature fate of an early Parkville paper:—"A paper, called the *Industrial Luminary*, was recently established in Kansas, U. S., by Messrs. Parks and Patterson, for the promotion of Abolitionist views, and soon became obnoxious to the slave-owners. Two hundred men assembled at the office, took possession of one of the proprietors, Patterson (the other having disappeared,) seized the press, and thereupon passed resolutions—That the Parkville *Industrial Luminary* is a nuisance which has been endured too long, and should now be abated. That we meet here again on this day three weeks, and if we find G. S. Park or W. J. Patterson in the town, then, or at any subsequent time, we will throw them into the Missouri River, and if they go to Kansas to reside, we pledge our honour as men to follow and hang them wherever we can take them.—That, at the suggestion of our Parkville friends, we will attend to some other freesoilers not far off—That we will suffer no person belonging to the northern Methodist church to preach in Platte country, after this date, under penalty of tar and feathers for the first offence, and a hemp rope for the second," &c. The printing press was afterwards paraded through the town, and then thrown into the Missouri.

THE "COLUMBIA STAR" of California was first printed on a press of which the following is the eventful history, as related by the *Sonora Herald*:—"This old Ramage press was used to start the *Alta California* and many other papers in the El Dorado. In what year this press was built, or how it was used prior to its embarkation from New York, tradition doth not inform us; but its career of emigration commenced by a trip from New York to Texas. From thence it travelled through Mexico; thence to Monterey, in California, where it was used by the governors for printing proclamations and other public documents.—Thence it removed to San Francisco, for the introduction of her first newspaper—we forget its name—the one, however, which has grown into the *Alta California*. Anxious to disseminate further light, it afterwards moved to Sacramento, and lo! the *Placer Times* began to be scattered among a reading people. Its missionary work being performed in that city, it planted its next station at Stockton, and gave us the *Stockton Times*, the first paper published in the San Joaquin district.

About the first of July, 1850, the *Sonora Herald* appeared, proud to hail from the same old press that had never been broken. On that and no other we have continued to print, until a few weeks since, when it surrendered its place to a large Washington press. Still a missionary, it goes to Columbia, and the *Star* will be the fifth journal, in this state, that has been started by it.

CLIPPINGS FROM AN OLD FILE.

LOT THE THIRD.

WILLIAM COBBETT.—In my last lot of "Clippings," I alluded to Cobbett's contempt of the Press. He once said that "he wished he could arrange all the conductors of the London Press along the railings of Hyde Park, that the public might see what a pretty set of fellows presumed to instruct them."

THE "GLOBE."—During the days when this paper was under the "inspiration" of Lord Palmerston, it was edited by Mr. Blackett, M.P. for Newcastle upon Tyne.

THE "MORNING POST."—In 1792, Mr. Tattersall was the responsible proprietor. In 1795 he sold the entire copyright and printing materials for £600. The circulation then was only 350 daily. The purchaser was Mr. Daniel Stuart; Mr. Christie, the auctioneer, was also a proprietor. Previous to this time, Robert Burns was applied to to supply poetry, but none was ever sent. After 1790, Mr. Macdonald, a Scotch poet, author of the play of "Vimonda," contributed poems, as also did Wordsworth. Sir James Mackintosh, who was son-in-law to Stuart, was a regular contributor; and the paper about 1800 was supplied with some excellent articles by Charles Lamb. S. T. Coleridge was engaged after 1797, to contribute poetry. The Odes "Fire, Famine, and Slaughter," "France," "Dejection," and that "On the Departing Year," with twenty or thirty other pieces since included in his poetical works, among which was "Love," one of the most popular poems of this age, were first published in the *Morning Post* and *Courier*. Among his contributions to the former (March 19, 1800) was his famous character of William Pitt. The last time he wrote in it was in August, 1802. At that period it stood higher in point of sale than any other morning paper, the order in respect of circulation from high to low being this: *Morning Post*, *Morning Herald*, *Morning Advertiser*, *Times*. De Quincey says of Coleridge, "No more appreciable monument could be raised to his memory, than a republication of his essays in the *Morning Post*, but still more of those afterwards published in the *Courier*." These have been reprinted under the title of "Essays on his Own Times." Stuart left the *Morning Post* for the *Courier* in August, 1803. The circulation then was 4,500—a considerable number; for no other paper at that time sold more than 3,000. According to Mr. John Taylor, editor of the *Sun*, in his "Records of my Life," the *Morning Post* was purchased by Government to silence attacks on the Prince Regent.

THE LAST DAYS OF THE "MORNING CHRONICLE."—The Conservative *Herald* and *Standard* taking the side of "Protection" left the Peelites without a paper; and they resolved to purchase the *Chronicle*, which, I believe, came into their hands for a trifle, compared with the sums paid by its former proprietors. The Duke of Newcastle, Mr. Sydney Herbert, Mr. Gladstone, and the Hon. Geo. Smyth, have the credit of finding the "capital" for this purchase; and the management of the paper was placed in the hands of Mr. Delaine, the elder, who had occupied a similar post on the *Times*. In its new hands a considerable impetus was given to the *Chronicle*; and the sending "Commissioners" into the provinces, and also to the continent, to report on the habits, resources, and industrial occupations of the people, and to make enquiries into the state of "labour and the poor," was a happy thought, which added to the reputation of the paper, till the dismissal of Mr. Mayhew, for the unfavourable view which he took of the operation of free-trade, in his elaborate papers on London labour and the London poor, taught the public that it was not so much truth that the proprietors sought to establish, but rather to promote their own party ends. Mr. Delaine soon retired from the management, which passed into the hands of

Mr. Cook, a very clever, enterprising man. It supported the Tractarian view in church matters. Mr. Beresford Hope, son of the late Thos. Hope, author of "Amestadius," had been a great contributor of articles on ecclesiastical questions, to its columns, under the signature of D. C. L. Mr. Philip Harwood was also on the editorial staff. Chas. Shirley Brooks, son of an architect at St. Albans, was sub-editor; he also wrote the parliamentary summary, and most of the reviews of new works. The theatrical critic was Angus Reach, a Scotchman, who went as the *Chronicle's* "Commissioner" to the south of France, and whose letters from that quarter were republished under the title of "Claret and Olives from the Garonne to the Rhone." Shirley Brooks, too, was sent by the proprietors to the east of Russia and to Constantinople; and his letters on those countries were admirable productions. Mr. W. R. Gregg, brother to Mr. R. Gregg, of Manchester, was a frequent contributor to the *Chronicle*; also Mr. Hayward, the barrister, the translator of "Faust." Mr. Venables, formerly of Cambridge, and Mr. Maine, Professor of Civil Law at that university, had also the credit of contributing to its columns, how truly I really cannot say.

A NEWSPAPER IN PERSIA.—A letter from Tiflis announces what may be regarded as an indication of progress in the Shah's dominions. An Englishman, Mr. Burgess, has received permission to publish, and has commenced publishing, a Persian journal at Teheran, and this under the protection of the Prime Minister Meerza Tahi Khan, the first number of which appeared on the 6th of January, and contained, among other articles, one upon the necessity for erecting watch-houses in Teheran; a second upon the expediency of appointing resident envoys or consuls in London and Bombay; and another upon the necessity of establishing regular post-office and postal communications throughout the Persian monarchy.—*Morning Chronicle*, 1851.

THE GROWTH OF THE PRESS.—We take the following curious details (partly founded on Appendix IV. of the House of Commons' Report on Newspaper Stamps issued from 1837 to 1850—printed July 18th, 1851), from the *Britannia* newspaper of October 4th, 1851:—"Up to the close of the eighteenth century as many as eighty-eight newspapers had been established, though of course differing materially in character with those of the present day. In the next ten years thirty-five were added to the list; the next decade produced thirty-seven more candidates for public favour. The character of the newspaper had then been formed on the moderate principle; all that it required was improvements in details. From 1820 to 1830 64 more journals were started; whilst in the next six years eighty more were added. The reduction of the newspaper stamp from fourpence to a penny gave an additional start in 1837. In that year alone twenty-three papers were started, and from then to April 1851, no less than two hundred and forty new journals have sprung into existence. Five hundred and sixty-three newspapers are now in more or less active existence in the United Kingdom, consuming at least eighty millions of penny stamps; of these 174 profess Conservative principles; 231 advocate different shades of Liberalism; and 158 are neutral in politics, confining their lucubrations to the interest of the particular classes, of clergymen, lawyers, farmers, builders, sportsmen, for whom their pages are intended. These organs of information and opinion are again divisible according to the divisions of the empire:—London, 131; English provinces, 234; Wales, 9; British Isles, 76; Scotland, 77; Ireland, 96."

THE LOST TREASURES OF THE PRESS.—"Worlds of fine thinking," De Quincey says of the daily press, "lie buried in that vast abyss, never to be disinterred, or restored to human admiration. Like the sea, it has swallowed treasures without end, that no diving-bell will bring up again."

ALBANY FONBLANQUE AND THE "EXAMINER."—Fonblanque became editor and proprietor of the *Examiner* in 1830, but had written the political leading article since 1827. Before his time Hazlitt and Barnes of the *Times* had been among its contributors. In a note now before me dated February 2nd, 1841, he says, "Its politics, which were once thought Ultra-Radical, are now deemed Moderate Radical; not because it has receded from any opinion it ever maintained, but because the Chartists have gone beyond the principles it has held."

THE "EDINBURGH COURANT."—The first number of the *Edinburgh Courant* is dated "Wednesday, 14th, till Monday, 19th February, 1705, is about the size of a demy quarto, and in every respect forms a remarkable contrast to the newspapers of the present day.

GREAT "RUSHES" FOR NEWS.—54,000 copies of *The Times* were sold when the Royal Exchange was opened by the Queen; 44,500 at the close of Rush's trial. There were sold of *The Times* on Nov. 19, 1852, containing an account of the Duke of Wellington's funeral, 70,000 copies: these were worked off at the rate of from 10,000 to 12,000 an hour. *The Times* of Jan. 10, 1806, with an account of the funeral of Lord Nelson, is a small paper compared with *The Times* of the present day. Its size is nineteen inches by thirteen; having about eighty advertisements, and occupying, with woodcuts of the coffin and funeral car, a space of fifteen inches by nine. In 1828, the circulation of *The Times* was under 7,000 a day, and its gross proceeds about £45,000 a year. There were sold of the *Illustrated London News*, with a narrative of the duke's funeral (a double number), 400,000 copies.

LEGEDREMAIN OF THE PRESS.—In Holywell Street, Strand, a violent semi-Whig newspaper, called *Bell's New Weekly Messenger*, was some thirty years ago issued every Saturday. On Mondays, the form of this print was altered, the markets of Monday were put in, and out came, Phoenix like, a Radical paper, yclept the *Planet*. Another turn of the wheel, the type was again slightly altered, a Conservative leader or two put in, and out came a paper called the *Magnet*!

LENDING NEWSPAPERS.—It was formerly illegal to lend out newspapers to read for hire. By the 29th of George the Third, cap. 50, "No hawker of a newspaper, or other person, shall let a newspaper for hire to any person or different persons, or from house to house, on pain of forfeiting five pounds."

A MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT.—Married,—on the 31st May, at Watab City, MAW KEE-KO KEE-WAW-HAW-DAUTCHKEN, Esq., to Miss WEE-HUN KAW, daughter of Maw-Hee-koo-shay-naw-zhee-kaw, all of Wanatah county, Minnesota. The editor participated in the feast on this occasion, and was presented with the hind quarter of a fine dog.—*Montreal Paper*.

JOURNALISM UNDER DIFFICULTIES.—In a notice to his subscribers last week, the editor of the *Banffshire Reporter*, which "is written in one county and printed in another," says that "during the period it has been in existence [eleven weeks] we have travelled little short of 600 miles between our editorial garret and the Press, besides acting as our own clerk, reporter, and not unfrequently as our own postman, or distributor."

ESSEX PAPERS.—Among the newspaper curiosities of Essex were the *Sickle*, published at Warrington, commenced September 4th, 1828, and discontinued December 11th in the same year; and the *Colchester Oyster*, started May 7th, 1833, and discontinued on June 18th of the same year. I have seen an old Colchester paper with the title *Pulborough News*. The *Essex Mercury*, or *Colchester Weekly Journal*, from Saturday, April 17th, to Saturday April 24th, 1736, price twopence, No. 163. SENEX.

THE NEW POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

THE changes which we foreshadowed in the new Postal Bill have been effected, and though notices of several amendments have been given, it is certain that they will not be accepted by the Government or be supported by any number of independent members. Mr. Watkin Williams proposes that any number of newspapers weighing less than six ounces may be sent by post for one halfpenny, and an Irish member has placed the project ventilated by Mr. Fisher, of Waterford, on the notice paper of the House of Commons, that the Post Office shall receive any quantity of newspapers in bulk, and charge for them at per lb. irrespective of their number, and deliver them without further charge. There is some reason in Mr. Williams's amendment, but in the other there is none. It is impossible to conduct postal traffic on a simple payment for bulk principle, particularly as none of the heavier papers would avail themselves of the privilege, so that the Post Office would have four to six deliveries to make for the

penny instead of two, besides carrying the paper possibly from one to four hundred miles.

The principal changes which have been made in the bill and in the old regulation relate, first, to the cancelling of useless stamps by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, and the price of the same to be allowed for.

In section six, which defines a newspaper, it is provided "that it be printed on a sheet or sheets unstitched." This has drawn forth a protest from the Society of Arts, but as far as newspapers are concerned there is nothing to complain of. In the same section the restrictions with respect to supplements is entirely done away with. Now a supplement is defined to be "a publication consisting wholly or in great part of matter like that of a newspaper, or of advertisements printed on a sheet or sheets or a piece or pieces of paper unstitched, or consisting wholly or in part of engravings, prints, lithographs, illustrative of articles in the newspaper; such publication in every case being published with the newspaper, and having the title and date of publication of the newspaper printed at the top of every page, or at the top of every sheet, or side on which any such engraving, print, or lithograph appears. This is broad enough to include any ordinary supplement, until newspapers give four-post bedsteads or other articles of furniture, as supplemental prizes, like some of the continental journals.

The registration of newspapers at the Post Office is enacted by section 7, and this clause has been extended so as to include advertising journals, like the *North British Advertiser*, now in existence, but in future it is doubtful whether a new venture of the kind would be deemed a newspaper. The Postmaster General reserves to himself the right to remove any publication from the register if he considers it not a newspaper within the terms of the act.

Under no circumstances will two or more newspapers be allowed to be sent together unless one halfpenny postage is charged for every separate newspaper and its supplement (if any), even if the weight be less than six ounces, which is the maximum allowed to every single newspaper, including its cover and supplemental sheets. Book packets, on the contrary, will be charged one halfpenny for every two ounces which they may contain. This is, however, an important modification of the old rule of one penny per four ounces, particularly when we remember that "a packet of two or nine registered newspapers shall not in any case be liable to a higher rate of postage than the rate chargeable on a book packet of the same weight." This leaves the smaller country journals but little to grumble at.

The Postmaster General takes powers for making regulations as to the detail of the arrangements necessary to carry out the act, and to prevent enclosures and communications of words, regulating covers, affixing stamps, and other details. Also, to regulate the transmission of newspapers, and periodical publications, British, colonial or foreign, to places outside the United Kingdom. The Postmaster General is constituted the supreme arbiter, with power of appeal in certain cases to the Treasury, as to what is a newspaper and what is a book or sample packet.

The Commissioners of Inland Revenue are to provide all proper dies and other implements for denoting by adhesive, embossed, or impressed stamps or otherwise, the duties of postage payable in the United Kingdom, and by section 18 it is forbidden to use, or affix any stamp which has been cut from, though not used for, any cover, card, or thing on which the stamp was embossed or impressed.

It is understood, though not positively enacted, that newspapers may be posted for delivery in the same town in which they are published, and the privilege of retransmission ceases. The halfpenny postage cards are provided by the same bill, and altogether the newspaper world generally will be gainers by the amended bill, and though some of the papers may feel themselves aggrieved, none are placed in a worse position than they were before, whilst the majority are placed in a much better. When all are treated alike, there is not much room for grumbling.

BOURGEOIS.

THE *Colonial Mail* and the *Oriental Mail* have been discontinued, in consequence of the failure of Mr. H. A. Edwards, their proprietor.

NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIBERS.

THE following classification of newspaper subscribers we take from an American paper.

First come the

UPRIGHTS.—These are men who take newspapers, pay for them and read them. Observe the order in which these things are done: The pay comes first—the reading next. These men consider they get the worth of their money in the bargain. It seems as fair and just to them that the newspapers should be paid for, as a barrel of sugar or a new coat. They never entertain any other opinion. When the years run out, or a little before, they are on hand with the pay. There is no more difficulty with them in remembering this period, than Sunday or the first of January. If one of them wishes to stop his paper, he either calls or writes a letter by his postmaster, in due season, like a man. This class is dear to the heart of the editor. Their image is embalmed in his warm affections. May they live a thousand years, and see their sons' sons to the fourth generation.

The second class now in mind is the

DO WELLS.—This class is nearly related to the other—so near, that it is hard to tell where one begins and the other ends. These men always pay in advance in the beginning and intend to do so continually. But memory fails a little, or some mishap intervenes, and the time runs by—sometimes a little—sometimes for quite a period. But their recollection, though nodding occasionally, never gets sound asleep. It pronounces the word in due time,—"The printer is not paid," and forthwith their will to do well kindles into activity. Now comes the paying up—"Meant to do so before. Don't mean to let such things pass by." A publisher can live with such men. They have a warm place in his memory—only a little back of the Uprights. If such a man dies in arrears, his wife or son remembers that he may not have paid up for his newspaper, and forthwith institutes inquiries. They remember that part of the benefit was theirs, and estate or no estate, see that the printer's bills are not among their father's unsettled accounts.

Next come the

EASY DOERS.—These men believe in newspapers. They have fully settled it in their own minds that a newspaper is a good thing. They take them, too. Sometimes at the first they pay up for the first year—at any rate they mean to, pretty soon. If they have done so, they sit down with the comforting conviction that their newspaper is now settled for; and this idea having once got into their heads, refuses obstinately to be dislodged, but keeps its hold from year to year—a truth once—now an illusion, gray and rheumatic with years.

The editor, marking the elongated and elongating space in the accounts current of their dollars, begins to ask if they are dead or have gone to California. Now he begins to poke bills at them. They suddenly start up to the reality that they are in arrears: and, like men, as they are at the bottom, pay up. They never dispute his bills—they know books tell better stories than moss-covered memories. If the publisher has faith enough, or a long purse, and can live like a hibernating bear, he may survive this class. But if he is mortal only, woe be to him.

The next class is that of the

DOWN HILLERS.—Here we begin to slide over to the other side. The picture suddenly gets sombre. We shall despatch the Down Hillers suddenly. One of these may take a paper because wife wants one, or the children are zealous to read it, or a neighbour persuades him. When it begins to come, he dismisses all thoughts about it further. If the editor sends a man directly to him at the end of two or three years, he may get some pay for his paper, but with growls and surly looks. He never pays any debt if he can get rid of it, and a newspaper least of all. Still, he hates lawsuits, and constables, and all that. A dun has the same effect on him that a bullet has on a hippopotamus—glancing from his hide, or sinking into the blubber harmless. He is always sliding down hill, and soon merges into another class, that of

THE NIX CUM ROUSE.—No matter how this man began his subscription, he never pays for it—not he. "He don't like that sort of paper. It don't give no news. He never did like it. He didn't want it in the first place, and told the postmaster so. He sent back one more than a year ago—besides, he never began to take it till a long time after it came, and he hadn't had only two or three of them, at any rate, and those he hadn't read." Wipe him off.

Here comes the

SCAPE GRACE.—It is enough to say of him that he never fails to have a newspaper—two or three of them. When he thinks they have come about long enough for the publisher to want pay, he sends back with "stop it." Or he takes up his quarters and leaves for parts unknown. He does not want to pay, and he don't mean to. Get it if you can. Enough for him.

Reader, in which of the above classes are you found?

NATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF JOURNALISM.

(From *Chambers' Journal*.)

THE English journal betrays the bent of the English character to us in the gradualness and deliberation with which it approaches and deals with a political or social topic. It seeks to convince by calm logic, has a dislike, if not a contempt, for sensationalism, and makes a show at least of liberality towards its opponents. It seems to yield all it can be expected to, and draws cautiously near its climax, studious not to shoot beyond the limit of prevailing public opinion. How differently does the French journalist go to his task! The French character is essentially dramatic, sensational, loves sharp surprises, is more attracted by appeals to susceptibility and the emotions, than to the reason. Hence the dramatic way in which everything is put in the French newspapers; hence the fashion of short paragraphs, and brief rasping sentences of half-a-dozen words, which are honoured by a line to themselves; editorials and *faits divers*, fashionable news and correspondence—even the financial column, sometimes—are replete with striking expressions, with sudden antitheses, and with melodramatic expression.

The American Press, perhaps with even greater fidelity than that of the older nations, reflects the national character and opinions, while lending an incalculable aid in their development. But, as the American character is a compound of the traits of many races, so there is a far greater variety in the tone and types of American newspapers than one finds in those of England or France. The phlegmatic, critical, and contemplative New Englander, inheritor of the Puritan's cool judgment and shrewd penetration, needs for his daily reading a far different style from that which satisfies the warm-blooded and less severely trained Southron, with his cavalier breeding and instincts. The Western subjugator of wild nature, made rough, and robust, and almost uncouth, by the very contagion of that nature, cares not for discussion on points of philosophy; he must have strong, robust, straightforward thrusts, editors of 'the muscular Christian type, physical and mental. Then, again, the driving, gold-seeking New Yorker, product indeed of the miscegenation of many races, but of races with all of whom gold is a dominant ambition, must have still another sort of paper. If he be a merchant and nothing more, he must have papers full of long columns of figures, papers which hesitate at no expense in order to procure the 'very latest news' from the remotest ends of the earth, especially of news that affect the markets and the stocks; if he be merchant and lover of letters too, he must have, besides his paper of business, his journal of books and gossip—the one for his counting-room, the other for his up-town library—the one for morning study, the other for evening entertainment. These two facts, then, are noticeable in the American Press—that there is a very great variety, and that yet one and all are unmistakably American in tone and management.

THE "DURHAM COUNTY ADVERTISER" has reduced its price to twopence, and increased its editorial and literary columns. The *Advertiser* is an enlightened progressive Conservative paper. It was once the only journal between York and Newcastle.

A PHASE OF THE LIBEL LAW.

(From the *Solicitors' Journal*.)

EVIDENCE—INTERROGATORIES—LIBEL.

Bowden v. Allen, C. P., 18 *Weekly Reporter*, 695.

This decision is the result of the gross carelessness that is habitually displayed in the drawing of statutes. As we noticed the case immediately after it was decided (*ante* 524) we will now only briefly state the point involved.

6 & 7 Will. 4, c. 76, contained various provisions by which it was rendered easy to ascertain who were the printers, publishers and proprietors of any newspaper, &c.; and by section 19 it was also provided that anyone should be compelled to answer a bill of discovery in Chancery in aid of an action for libel, for the purpose of ascertaining the name of the printers, publishers, &c., of any newspaper, &c. All these provisions are repealed by the *Newspapers, &c.*, Repeal Act, 1869 (32 & 33 Vict. c. 24), and section 19 is re-enacted.

The consequence of this is that a plaintiff in an action for libel in a newspaper may be unable to prove who are the printers, &c., of the paper, except by incurring the expense and delay of filing a bill in Chancery. The means for ascertaining this information (except by a bill of discovery) are repealed, and a defendant in an action of libel cannot be interrogated under the Common Law Procedure Act, 1854, s. 51, as to whether he published the libel, &c., because his answer might criminate him and expose him to an indictment. This result of the Act of 1869 is obvious to anyone reading the statute with any care, and we noticed this consequence in the legislation of last year (13 S. J. 919) when commenting upon the statute then just passed.

Bowden v. Allen has now decided that the law is as we have above stated it to be, and the inconvenience must remain until there is fresh legislation on the subject. All this might have been spared by a provision requiring answers to interrogatories at common law in the same way, and subject to the same conditions, that answers are required by the re-enacted section of 6 & 7 Will. 4, c. 76, to a bill of discovery in Chancery. The plaintiff is entitled to the information from the defendant, but he cannot obtain it in the court in which his action is brought.

THE PROHIBITION OF WAR "COMMISSIONERS."

(From the *Times*.)

We can well understand why newspaper correspondents, and, indeed, newspapers themselves, should at times like these be regarded with jealousy by the powers that be. They are apt to tell them what they would rather not be told; they are apt to make people think and talk about subjects which those Powers would rather not have publicly discussed. If the whole British public would only be good enough to go to bed and sleep soundly for the next six months, we have no doubt the Government would undertake to supply it with any amount of despatches, blue books, and histories of the war when it awoke. But, unfortunately, the British public is unwilling, even were it able, to go to sleep while great events are happening. It loves discussion; it loves to have opinions of its own; and it requires its purveyors of news to supply it with the necessary materials for forming those opinions. We, among other of our contemporaries, are engaged in the business of collecting those materials, and we should be wanting in the plainest duty to our readers, as well as to ourselves, did we not use every effort to secure the services of the most competent agents for the performance of that task.

MODERN PARAGRAPHING.

(From the *Cincinnati Times*.)

That was a bitter joke of the man in New Jersey who put a quantity of jalap in some beer his friend was about to drink. The funeral was very generally attended.—*Exchange*.

We don't know who originated the above manner of stating a fatal occurrence, but it seems to be quite generally followed by newspaper paragraphers. It is a delicate way of putting it, and

reads much better than when one says: "He died amid the most horrible and excruciating agonies." We get the whole story, and our sensibilities are not shocked.

The new style of paragraphing affords a fine field for the exercise of ingenuity in conveying the intelligence that the man died. Variety, freshness, and a cheerful, not to say vivacious facetiousness might be mingled with the briefest notices of fatal casualties that otherwise might be utterly neglected by the reader, or very briefly glanced at. As, for instance, the following:

A man in New Hampshire, the other day, ate fifteen dozen raw oysters on a wager. The silver trimmings on his coffin cost twelve dollars and thirty-five cents.

A young man in Louisville examined a keg of damaged gunpowder with a red-hot poker, to see if it was good. It is believed by his friends that he has gone to Europe, although a man has found some human bones, and a piece of shirt tail, about twenty miles from Louisville.

John Smith, in Nebraska, said he could handle a rattlesnake the same as a snake-charmer. The churlishness of the undertaker in demanding pay in advance delayed the funeral four days.

A circus rider, in Texas, tried to turn three somersaults on horseback, the other day. The manager sent back to New Orleans for another somersault man.

A man in New Jersey couldn't wait for the cars to get to the depot, and jumped off. His widow sued his insurance company.

Few men would attempt to dry dampened gunpowder in a kitchen stove. A man in Canada did. His afflicted family would be glad of any information as to his whereabouts.

In Massachusetts, the other day, a man thought he could cross the track in advance of a locomotive. The services at the grave were very impressive.

A man warned his wife in New Orleans not to light the fire with kerosene. She didn't heed the warning. Her clothes fit his second wife remarkably well.

A boy in Detroit disregarded his mother's injunction not to skate on the river, as the ice was thin. His mother don't have to cook for so many as she formerly did.

THE NEW POSTAL TARIFF AND ITS INFLUENCE ON JOURNALISM.

(From the *Observer*.)

THE new postal tariff will make a revolution in journalism, the effects of which cannot be as yet fully foreseen. On and after the 1st of October the *Times* will be forwarded by the early post to subscribers upon the payment of £1 quarterly in advance. No doubt other leading daily papers will follow suit, and we shall soon approximate very closely to the French practice. In France a daily paper depends for its sale almost entirely upon its subscribers, who receive their copies each day direct from the office, the price of the *abonnement* being paid quarterly in advance, and no *abonnement* being allowed for a less time than three months. Financially the method would charm even Mr. Lowe. The newspaper, like the State, receives its money in advance, and knows exactly upon what sum it can reckon. And, on the other hand, the reader saves the small difference which would otherwise be paid to a middleman. Morally, it is a doubtful question whether journalism will profit by the change. A paper, when it has its list of regular subscribers, will know more definitely to what especial class in the community it has to address itself, and its articles will, we expect, be appropriately flavoured to suit the taste of its readers. A journal which is written for a section of the community must always find itself more or less cramped, and will be sure in the end either to degenerate into the mouthpiece of party spirit or to offend its own especial circle of subscribers by not exactly endorsing their peculiar and distorted views upon great questions of general interest. Financially, the change is, as we have said, desirable; but having due regard for the higher interest of journalism, we are not sure that it is not better for a paper, as is now the case, to write more or less in the dark as to the position of the majority of its readers, and so to write with its hands free, and under no obligation to please its customers.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, July 25.

THERE have always been two opinions whether it was a wise policy to allow correspondents of the public Press to accompany armies through a campaign, thus making known, and possibly prematurely disclosing to the world—perhaps to the enemy—the plans of the commanders. The Emperor or the Emperor's Government would seem to take an adverse view of it, for as soon almost as war was declared, General Lebœuf issued an order prohibiting any journalist or newspaper correspondent from being admitted or allowed at head quarters. This order was subsequently confirmed by a notice to the same effect in the *Journal Officiel*, and again to-day in the same columns, the Keeper of the Seals intimates that he had hoped his appeal to the patriotism of the papers would have been sufficient to have prevented their mentioning military movements and the operations of the war, and that he would regret being constrained to put the law in motion against them. Now this is surely going too far. Can the Government really mean that the papers are not only to have no travelling reporters with the army, but are not even to communicate whatever news of the war they may be able to gather from other sources? It would seem so; for a bill has been laid before the Chamber, enacting that any paper publishing news about the war after an injunction against doing so has appeared in the *Journal Officiel* shall be suppressed, and the editor subjected to a penalty of from two to four hundred francs. The Government, it seems, will itself organise a service of news during the campaign—which simply means that it will allow the public to know just what and as much as it sees fit—and no more.

M. Edmond About has announced his appointment as special correspondent of the *Soir* at the seat of war; but I doubt if he will receive the permission of the military authorities to do more than follow in the wake of the army—even if so much as that be accorded him.

The correspondent of the *Times*, Mr. Charles Austin, was arrested at Metz the other day, being mistaken for a Prussian spy; but he was liberated after a night's incarceration.

M. Delescluze, the editor of the *Réveil*, in a leading article on the shooting of a policeman by a man named Megy, some time since, gave utterance to the opinion that a man's residence cannot be legally entered by the servants of the law between sunset and sunrise; and that resistance to illegal arrest was justifiable in law as well as in reason. For this he was prosecuted and sentenced to thirteen months' imprisonment. Against the sentence he appealed, but as the decision of the Court is against him, he has left the country. In announcing the fact, the *Réveil* says he believes he can employ his time more profitably and pleasantly, than in making list slippers in some prison, so he will carry on the war from abroad in future.

A curious law case lately came to be settled before the Civil Tribunal of Paris. When Count Daru and M. Buffet retired from the Ollivier Ministry, the *Figaro* and the *Parlement* stated that they had resigned in conformity with a pretty peremptory demand of the Orleans family. The retiring Ministers of course took this statement in offence, and wrote to the two papers indignantly contradicting it. This letter both papers refused to insert, and the ex-Ministers thereupon took proceedings against them. The defence was that the form of the letter was objectionable, and that the charge made against MM. Daru and Buffet was not of so serious a character as to justify these proceedings; but the Court thought otherwise, and ordered that the letter be published in each of the papers, and that a penalty of one hundred francs be paid for each day that its insertion had been delayed.

PRO RE NATA.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, July 25.

According to previous arrangement the fifth annual congress of German journalists was opened on the 3rd inst. at Frankfurt-on-the-Maine, by Dr. Max Friedländer, editor of the Vienna

Neue Freie Presse, he having been elected president, Dr. Stein of the *Breslauer Zeitung*, and Herr Hammeran of the *Frankfurter Journal*, vice-presidents, Voget of the *Frankfurter Zeitung* and Dr. Lindau of the *Leipzig Neues Blatt*, performing the functions of secretaries. The accounts were first gone into, when it appeared there was a cash balance of 1265 florins 83 kreuzers in the hands of the treasurer, out of which 300 dollars were voted to cover the expenses of the congress. Dr. Steinitz proposed some alterations in the "statutes" or bye-laws, tending to improve the organisation of the association. Among other things he proposed to exclude from membership such journals as did not contain original matter. This was objected to by several members and the motion was lost. Another proposed alteration met with better success; it was a motion by Dr. Stein of the Berlin *Volks-Zeitung*, that it should be binding on those admitted to remain members for at least three years, which would in some measure prevent the association from becoming like a pigeon-house, where everyone was free to come and go, thus causing a constant influx and ebb. This was agreed to by a large majority. Sonnemann, of Frankfort, read his report on asylums for superannuated journalists, and gave some account of one he had founded in his own printing establishment, laying stress on the fact that it was quite as much for the interests of the employers as of the employed. Wittelschöfer, of Vienna, gave an account of the journalists' club called "Concordia" in that city, which had already accumulated a capital of 150,000 florins from contributions on the part of the members, as well as from theatrical performances and other festivities got up annually in aid of the funds. A committee was appointed *ad hoc* to take into consideration Sonnemann's proposal and to bring up a report on the following day. At the same time a motion made by Steinitz, recommending the establishment of associations on the principle of the Vienna "Concordia" in such places where practicable, was unanimously passed.

On the following day the committee reported and declared themselves in favour of the motion, which was then put and carried with a few alterations of no importance, principally in the construction of the wording. This was also the case with a further motion of Dr. Stein to send a copy of the revised "statutes" to every paper in Germany, and to request the committee of management to take care that the report on the increase of the new local associations should be regularly put on the order of the day and read annually to the congress in future. Dr. Friedländer then read his report on the subject of the newspaper stamp duty, the advertisement tax, and the deposit of caution money, which he was requested by the congress held last year at Vienna to draw up. The report, which had already appeared in print, culminated in the recommendation of the following resolutions, which were passed *nem. con.* by the meeting:—"Caution-money is incompatible with the liberty of the Press, and ought to be abolished as a remnant of the old preventive system now no longer in force. Newspapers and the whole of their contents should be subject to no other duties or taxes than those levied on the rest of the community. The newspaper tax and the advertisement duty are both to be condemned as opposed to the science of policy and political economy." Stein, of the Posen *Ostdeutsche Zeitung*, moved that at least one paper in every province should be delegated to reclaim from the local government the refunding of its deposit of caution money, and if refused to commence legal proceedings. He said he did not anticipate any good from the resolutions just passed, but much advantage from a powerful and well-organised agitation; no special laws were required for the Press, which ought to be treated as other trades. Dr. Guido Weiss hoped no further proposals would be passed; the question of caution-money was now pending in the law courts, and as a decision would soon be given, he thought it more prudent to wait and see the result before taking action. Several other members took the same view of the case, upon which Herr Stein withdrew his motion. Then followed a debate of the subject of copyright, and several resolutions were moved and passed.

On the third and last day it was agreed that the congress next year shall be held at Breslau, and the representatives of the

following papers were elected members of the committee of management:—The members of the Frankfort Press composing the local committee; the *Vossische Zeitung*, the *Volks-Zeitung*, and the *Zukunft*,—all of Berlin; the *Breslauer Zeitung* and the *Schlesische Zeitung*,—both of Breslau; the *Neueste Nachrichten*, of Munich; the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, of Leipzig; the *Elberfelder Zeitung*; and the *Neue Freie Presse*, the *Wanderer*, the *Medicinische Zeitschrift*, and the (old) *Presse*, all of Vienna. Of the ninety-six papers composing the association, fifty-three were represented at the congress.

Professor Dr. Peters, director of the Observatory at Altona, and editor of the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, has been invested by the King of Prussia with the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Royal Order of the Red Eagle. S.

DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, July 25.

On the 9th inst. the Criminal Police Court gave judgment in the case of the two reporters of the *Dagbladet* and *Fædrelandet* newspapers, who were tried on the charge preferred by Government for committing an assault on the lawyer Herr Steenstrup, member of the Danish Parliament, on the 21st of February, in the corridor of the House, of which circumstance I communicated the particulars in my letter of February last. Both the young men,—*Cand. juris* Topson and *Cand. philos.* Danckjær,—were convicted of provocation to fight a duel and condemned to four days' imprisonment each. On the other counts they were acquitted, as the court found nothing punishable in the rest of their conduct, and made due allowance for the excitement of their feelings under the provocation they had received.

Great curiosity is felt here, and has found expression in the Press, as to the future conduct of the inhabitants of North Schleswig, who have been incorporated with the Prussian monarchy against their will and notwithstanding the stipulations contained in the Treaty of Prague. It is but natural that they should be in a state of great excitement, even more than the people are here; for being Danes by birth, language, and antecedents, they of course entertain a hope and even cling to the belief, that with the declaration of war between France and Germany the hour for their deliverance has struck. Hitherto they have only given expression to their feelings in boastful speeches at agricultural exhibitions and on similar occasions. The Press generally is in a precarious condition there, as the new Penal Code for North Germany, which lately came into operation and is of course applicable to Schleswig, contains some ugly penalties for *hochverrath*, or high treason, and *landesverrath*, or treason to the country, which tend to make the editors cautious, and careful how they express their ideas and sentiments without committing a breach of the law and rendering themselves liable to its penalties; whilst the editor of the leading journal at Flensburg—the *Dannevirke*, written in the Danish language—has had so much personal experience of the fines and imprisonments awarded by the Prussian tribunals, that he considers himself already a martyr to the cause of Denmark, and is doubly cautious, in the present critical state of affairs, what language he uses, and what chance there is of emancipation from the Prussian yoke by a French diversion in favour of Denmark and a return to his natural allegiance.

The *Dagbladet* announces that a M. Fernand Langlé, formerly editor of the *Situation*—the Guelphic organ published for a time at Paris with funds furnished by the ex-King George of Hanover—and member of the Schleswig Committee at Paris, has arrived in this city to assume the duties of special correspondent for some of the French newspapers.

Dr. Claus Manicus, a well-known Danish journalist, and editor of the *Flensborger Tidning* prior to the war of 1864, has just celebrated his *Goldene Hochzeit*, or the fiftieth anniversary of his wedding, a family festivity thought a great deal of in this country as an event of importance, because it is one of such rare occurrence.

HAMLET.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, July 24.

In the present state of European affairs, it may perhaps be interesting to take a glance at the principal organs of the Press,

as far as they have manifested any decided proclivities in favour of either of the belligerents who have now disturbed the peace of Europe. As Sweden has decided to maintain a neutrality, of course the *Post-och Inrikes Tidningar* and the other official journals observe a praiseworthy reticence, in order not to compromise the Government. The *Nya Dagligt Allehanda* has expressed itself in strong terms of hostile feeling against Prussia and her behaviour to this country in 1844, also reminding its readers of Prussia's unneighbourly conduct towards Denmark, which ended in wrenching away two of her fairest provinces. On the other hand the *Aftonbladet*, which has always supported the policy of the Scandinavian union, expresses its sympathy with the cause of Prussia, or rather of united Germany. At Gottenborg there is a similar divergence of opinion in the Press. The *Göteborg Handels Tidning*, which is the principal representative of the commercial interests of that flourishing port, has taken a very decided stand in favour of Germany, whilst its contemporary, the *Göteborgs-Post*, as staunchly defends the cause of France. The tone in which these two rival papers speak of each other, though not going the extreme length of the Estonswill competitors, is already bitter and likely to become venomous. Thus the *Göteborgs-Post* of yesterday says, "We can safely affirm that the *Göteborg Handels Tidning*, in taking part with Germany, by no means represents the majority of the Exchange, and still less does it give a correct idea of the state of public opinion in Sweden. With Prussia as at present constituted, with a country whose Government has made use of its physical power to act in the most brutal and shameless manner towards our sister-country Denmark, whose representatives mock and insult those who have the courage to remind the King of Prussia of his sacred obligations,—with such a country Sweden can have no sympathy. To take part with such a people is as unnatural as it is inconsistent with the Swedish notions of justice."

Since my last letter there has been a great meeting of working men held in this city, which was attended by an unusually large number of journalists, who also took a leading part in the debates and proceedings. Among them were Andreas Johnson, on the editorial staff of the Christiania *Dagbladet*; Olafsen, special correspondent of the Christiania *Abend-post*; *Cand. juris* Wallem, editor of the *Bergenpost*; Stenberg, editor of the *Horten Gyengangeren*; Steen, editor of the *Christiansand Stifts-Avis*; Lector Utne, correspondent of the *Drammens Tidende*; C. V. Rimstad, editor of the Copenhagen *Dagstelegrafen*; Faber, on the staff of the *Arbeideren*; Captain Claudius Maden, editor of the *Middelfart-Avis*; and Adolph Bauer, special correspondent of the Copenhagen *Dagbladet*.

NORD.

ITALY.

The speeches and toasts, political songs and poetical effusions, published by the Italian newspapers on the occasion of the late inauguration of the monument at Alessandria, raised to the memory of Bocheri, who was executed in the reign of Carlo-Alberto, and is considered by his fellow-countrymen as a political martyr, have given rise to a whole series of Press prosecutions and sequestrations of journals. It is a characteristic worth notice that the smaller papers, such as the *Presente* of Parma, and the *Gazzettino-Rosa* of Milan—the latter edited by Garibaldi's son—are more persecuted than the larger ones, as the *Momento* of Genoa and the *Gazzetta di Milano* are allowed to reproduce them without consequences.

TURKEY.

In the Supreme Consular Court at Constantinople, on the 16th inst., an action for libel was brought by John Laffan Hanly, responsible editor of the *Levant Times and Shipping Gazette*, against James Carlile M'Coan, responsible editor of the *Levant Herald*. The plaintiff complained of two libels—one in French in the defendant's Anglo-French daily edition of Tuesday, May 10; and one in English, which appeared on the following day in the weekly edition of the defendant's paper, and which were to the effect that some copy had been stolen from the reporter of the *Levant Herald* and used for the other paper. The case having progressed for six hours, the jury retired, and after an absence of half an hour returned into court with a verdict for the plaintiff, for 40s. damages and costs.

UNITED STATES.

The first number of a new daily paper called the *Times* appeared at Indianapolis on June 6. It is "independent in politics."—The *Bangor Maine*, the new paper announced for the 1st inst., has ended in a "fizzle." It was to be all that a paper could—and more, and doubtless it would, could its proprietor have realised his expectations, but the manufacturer of the Press not getting his money, carried it off, the type-founder took the same liberty with the type, and a constable arrived and actually incarcerated the proprietor himself, brains and all, which winds up the melancholy history of the man who, without money, attempted to establish a daily paper.—Under the title of "The Coming Man," *Frank Leslie* has lately had a series of illustrations of rare merit, giving singularly truthful pictures of Chinese men and women in characteristic attitudes and occupations, forming the most graphic collection we have seen. The *Eye of the South* is a new paper projected in Mississippi.—*Anglo American Times*.

The *Indianapolis Times*, mentioned in the above paragraph, is dead. It published in its last number the following obituary:—"The brilliancy of our career has only been equalled by its brevity. But we retire with one piece of knowledge we never possessed before. We are satisfied that we are fully competent to close the affairs of any paper on the shortest notice. The business management of the paper would have been eminently successful, but there wasn't any business to manage."

Mr. Laing Mearns, editor of the *Weekly Register*, has gone to the seat of war as special correspondent of the *New York Herald*.

AUSTRALIA.

An addition is about to be made to the literature of the day at Melbourne by the publication of a monthly journal of industry and instruction, under the title of the *Scientific Australian*, specially devoted to those engaged in scientific, artistic and industrial pursuits, and the promotion of technical education among the operative classes. It is to be brought out by Mr. J. G. Knight, C.E., whose name is associated with the progress of colonial industry. Mr. Knight has associated with himself a council of twenty-four contributors, all of whom are gentlemen of recognised ability in their respective professions and avocations. With the co-operation of such a powerful and influential body, the journal in question ought to achieve a decided success. The first number was to appear on the 1st of July.

The *Sydney Afternoon Telegram* newspaper has been discontinued.

Considerable excitement has been created at Melbourne by a diabolical attempt to assassinate Mr. G. Paton Smith, proprietor of the *Melbourne Age* and member of the Legislative Assembly. A maniac of the name of Supple discharged five shots from a revolver at Mr. Smith, whilst proceeding in the middle of the day from the Supreme Court to the Parliament House, one of the shots wounding him in the arm, but not dangerously; though he must have fallen a victim to the cowardly attack, but for the timely interference of Mr. Walsh, a publican of Spring Street, who also received a bullet in his body, from the effects of which he has since succumbed. The culprit was secured by the constables, and handcuffed after making a desperate resistance. He arrived in the colony some years ago and endeavoured to set up in business as a lawyer, but failed, and has since been an occasional contributor to the Press. Mr. Smith was removed to the hospital, where the bullet was extracted. The wound is of a serious, but fortunately not of a fatal character, and when the mail left he was considered to be progressing favourably.

MR. BELLERBY'S SUCCESSOR.—An elegant dressing-case, bearing the inscription "Mr. J. E. Bellerby, a token of friendship from the *Yorkshire Gazette* Office, 1870," was presented to that gentleman, who for the last three years has been one of the reporters on this journal, and has now left York to take the management of the *Exeter Flying Post*, of which his father, lately deceased, was the proprietor. His grandfather, Mr. Edward Bellerby, was for twenty-one years overseer of the *Gazette* establishment; and his father was for nearly ten years on the literary staff of the same paper. At the request of the subscribers, Mr. Foster, in a complimentary speech, made the presentation, and Mr. J. E. Bellerby courteously responded.

Law Intelligence.

THE HUDDERSFIELD LIBEL CASE.

CLAYTON V. HARPER.

THIS was a case arising out of the publication of an article in the *Huddersfield Chronicle*, of which the defendant is the proprietor, the plaintiff being a news agent in the same town. The case was tried at Manchester in December last (a report of which appeared in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS* at the time), when the defendant was mulcted in £1000 damages. Against this verdict he appealed to the Court of Queen's Bench, and on the 24th of June Mr. Pope, Q.C., argued the case before the full court, Mr. Forbes being heard in opposition. Mr. Justice Blackburn, speaking on behalf of the full court, said they were of opinion that a new trial should be granted, unless the plaintiff would consent to reduce the damages from £1000 to £350. His lordship also intimated that the court would allow a fortnight for the plaintiff to make up his mind on the matter. On the 1st ult., it was notified to the defendant that the plaintiff had adopted the suggestion of the court, and looking upon "a bird in the hand as worth two in the bush," had consented to accept the reduced sum of £350.

IMPORTANT.—In the Sheriff's Court, in an action brought against the proprietor of *Lloyd's Weekly London Newspaper*, for damages for not inserting a newspaper advertisement correctly, the verdict was for the defendant, with costs, on account of the illegibility of the writing.

A REPORTER GETTING £100 DAMAGES FOR SLANDER.—Jas. Fullerton, formerly reporter on the *N.B. Daily Mail*, has obtained £100 damages from Jas. Walker, spirit merchant, Glasgow, for slander. As Jas. Walker Littlejohn, who keeps a spirit shop next door to James Walker, Walker defendant in the action, which was reported by Mr. Fullerton, but in which he by mistake omitted the name of "Littlejohn," leaving it James Walker, Walker declared that he was bribed to make the mistake, and although the editor inserted an explanation and apology Walker repeated that Fullerton was bribed, till Fullerton lost his situation. Sheriff Galbraith, in finding the defendant liable to the pursuer in the sum of £100 and expenses, says:—"The gravamen of the defender's offence is its persistency. He continues to impute the very basest of motives to a reporter of the public Press, after the fullest explanation had been afforded him that the error was a mistake, and to the Sheriff. Substitute's mind a very easily accounted for mistake from the similarity, so far, of the names."

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. MURDO YOUNG.

It is only journalists of old standing to whom the name of Murdo Young will be familiar; and even with them it had almost escaped into oblivion, till the announcement of the death of the once well-known journalist recalled him to their minds. His was a stirring, if not a warring life, and his Press existence, we believe, closed with the tedious Chancery suit which severed his long connexion with the *Sun*,—a connexion extending over upwards of thirty years—and his association with it is still honourably borne in remembrance as that of an earnest advocate of all those great measures of reform which have, one by one, been carried by a succession of Liberal and Conservative, but all of them energetically innovating Governments. He was consistently and untiringly the supporter of the principles of Free Trade, long before the formation of the Anti Corn Law League. He was during the lifetime of nearly one whole generation the devoted adherent of the cause of civil and religious liberty. He had the gift of poetry, and as a man of letters was honourably known as the author of "Wallace," a tragedy in five acts, written in blank verse, and breathing the patriotic ardour of a devoted and enthusiastic Scotchman. As recently as only last year he produced and carefully saw through the Press a most ingenious system of his own contrivance for the shortening of shorthand—in its way a really remarkable contribution to the science of stenography. "Having," writes an old friend who knew him well, "devoted his fortunes, his energies, and the best years of his life ardently and ungrudgingly to the cause of Liberalism, he was as a matter of course forgotten and neglected by the Liberal party and a succession of Liberal administrations." During the night of Sunday, the 10th ult., Mr. Murdo Young died very suddenly in the eightieth year of his age, at Brighton, whither he had gone but a few days previously for the benefit of his health. The funeral of this veteran politician and journalist took place on the 15th ult. at Kensal-green Cemetery. The hearse was followed by mourning coaches containing Mr. Charles Kent, of the *Sun* newspaper, his sons, and other relatives of the deceased gentleman; as also by the Rev. Mr. Druce, who performed

the service, and Mr. J. C. Macphée. And thus, on a fine summer's day, with the sun shining brilliantly, was laid in the tomb all that was mortal of this once active and energetic metropolitan journalist.

M. PREVOST PARADOL.

This distinguished French journalist died—and we regret to say by his own hand—soon after his arrival at Washington, whither he had gone as representative of the French empire.

Prévost Paradol was born in August, 1829, and was consequently but little over the age at which a successful political career usually commences. His eminence in later life had only served to justify the promise abundantly given in his younger years. In 1855 a scholastic and collegiate course, in which one triumph had followed and eclipsed another, was at last crowned with a fitting honour, and the young student was elected Professor of French Literature at Aix. But M. Paradol was no mere *littérateur*. The lettered ease of a professorial chair fretted him, and within twelve months he flung up his professorship, and, attaching himself to the *Journal des Débats*, assumed at once a bold and pronounced part in the political arena. This was in 1846, but the advocacy of a responsible Ministry, and a proposal to confer the power of initiating laws on the Chamber, at once brought upon him a warning from M. de Persigny. A true instinct detected in him a dangerous enemy of personal government, and warning followed warning, until, to save from suppression the newspaper he conducted, M. Paradol was obliged to vacate his post. This produced no intermission of the censorship. Treason was scented in everything he wrote, even when he discussed topics of purely literary significance, and any journal that received his contributions became "suspect." It is said that at one moment of this darkest period of his career M. Paradol contemplated expatriating himself, and seeking in England the opportunity of exercising his literary abilities with a freedom denied him in his native country. Those who have read the lectures he delivered a few months since at Edinburgh know with what ease and force he used our English tongue, but he rightly persevered in offering his best services to his country.

The *Courier de Dimanche*, to which he was attached, was suppressed in 1866, and at one time the persecution to which M. Paradol was subjected may be called relentless. When M. Paradol accepted the mission to Washington there were many comments in Paris on the apparent reconciliation between the empire and the sturdiest of those who opposed the personal government of the Emperor, and some of his oldest friends, we believe, disapproved of his acceptance of the post.

The papers which appeared weekly in the *Times* newspaper on "French Politics," from "A Parisian Correspondent," and which only ceased a short time ago, were from the pen of M. Paradol.

MR. JOHN WILLIAMS.

On the morning of the 16th July, one of Swansea's oldest and most respected inhabitants passed away—Mr. John Williams, of *The Cambrian* newspaper, dying after a short illness. Mr. Williams purchased *The Cambrian* (the first newspaper published in Wales, and which was founded in 1804) in the year 1823, and during the whole of the long intervening period partially retained its management, and may be said to have literally died in harness, having only within a few hours of his death corrected a proof-sheet sent to him for revision. Although in his 82nd year Mr. Williams's memory and mental power were as fresh and vigorous as ever. He was emphatically the father of the newspaper Press in Wales, and his removal will be deeply and deservedly lamented by all his professional acquaintances, irrespective of political considerations.

MR. ZERAH COLBURN.

Mr. Zerah Colburn, the well-known civil engineer, died at Belmont, near Boston, U.S.A., on the 27th June. Mr. Colburn was formerly editor of *The Engineer*, and afterwards proprietor and editor of *Engineering*. He was also the author of a number of papers read before the Institute of Civil Engineers, of which he was a member. He was in his 37th year.

ELIAKIM LITTELL.

Eliakim Littell, publisher and founder of *Littell's Living Age*, died at his residence in Brookline, Mass., on Tuesday, 17th May. The deceased was born in Burlington, N. J., but settled in Philadelphia in early life, established a weekly paper, called the *National Recorder*. Two years afterwards he issued the *Saturday Magazine*, which he subsequently converted into a monthly, devoting it almost exclusively to foreign literature and science. This publication, however, was shortly afterwards consolidated with a New York publication.

Mr. Littell, in 1844, left Philadelphia and took up his residence in Boston, Mass., where he started and successfully established a monthly magazine, known as *Littell's Living Age*, which has ever since been conducted by him, and which has, under his personal management, grown into the reputation of being one of the best eclectic monthlies now published in this country. To this periodical he has identified himself for more than a quarter of a century, and no doubt he will be best known to the public by the publication which bore his name.

Home Subjects.

THE Kingston and Bray Observer, a twopenny weekly, has lately been brought out for circulation in the fashionable watering-places of Dublin Bay.

WAR CORRESPONDENTS.—The *Standard* is very angry with the Prussian Government for refusing permission to its correspondent to march with the army, a privilege accorded to the *Times*. The French Government withhold their sanction from all papers, native and foreign, sending reporters to the front; but the *London Figaro* says the "Specials" have all gone out to the war. Dr. Russell again represents the *Times*; Mr. Henty goes on behalf of the *Standard*, for whom he acted as correspondent in Abyssinia; Mr. Sala and Mr. Kingston will describe the events of the campaign for the *Telegraph*; the other journals employ men not so well known as the above, but all possessed of ready pens and quick imaginations. In some cases, the London papers pack off their Paris correspondents to the war. The *New York Tribune* is, we believe, to be represented by Mr. Boyle. For the *Morning Post* Mr. Whiteside is named. The *Times* allows its "Specials" unlimited expenditure.

THE "DAY'S DOINGS" is the title of a new threepenny illustrated weekly paper. Would not "The Week's Doings" have more correctly described the contents of the paper?

THE "INVERNESS COURIER."—A meeting was held on the 3rd of June, under the presidency of Colonel Fraser Tytler, for the purpose of raising a fund for a testimonial to R. Carruthers, Esq., of the *Inverness Courier*; and for more than forty years prominently connected with the town of Inverness. The proposal was enthusiastically received.

THE catchpenny announcements of some of the evening newspapers have suggested to the *Tomahawk* the following satirical advertisements:—

THE WAR.—TO SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.—Gentlemen engaged by the Press to write letters from the Seat of War can be accommodated with a neat Sitting-room and Bed-room in the best part of the Strand, in immediate proximity to most of the Newspaper Offices, and within hail of the very Latest Editions of the Evening Journals. Terms, including the use of Scissors and Paste, but exclusive of Gin-and-Water, One Guinea a week.—Apply at the bar of the Bold Recruit, Strand, W.C.

THE WAR.—LATEST AND SPECIAL INFORMATION.—Gentlemen on the Stock Exchange can be accommodated with Telegrams from the Continent to any amount, giving earliest information of "French Victories," "Prussian Successes," "The Position of Russia," "Secret Treaties between Austria and France," &c., &c., to order.—Apply for terms to Moses, Israel, and Co., Contractors, Houndsditch.

Specimens of this manufactured news are procurable in the neighbourhood of Fleet-street and Shoe-lane.

NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.—The annual meeting of this Fund was held on the 27th ult., Lord Houghton in the chair. The report stated that the invested capital of 5100*l.* will shortly be increased by the purchase of 400*l.* additional stock; that the grants made to members in the past year amount altogether to 162*l.*; and that the roll-book of the society comprises 240 members, 72 of whom are resident in London, and the remaining 68 in the country. The number of life members is 60. We must defer the report of the chairman's speech till next month.

NEWSPAPERS, although they have indeed become, as Carlyle tells us, in the more civilised countries, sovereigns, are still responsible sovereigns, perhaps scarcely less led than leading. If the Press does, as is truly said, guide the public opinion of the world, it seizes the cue from ideas already afloat in the air, which may not yet be palpable to the ordinary observer, but which it is the task of the editor to develop and to express. In the newspapers of a nation, one may without difficulty read the dominant national characteristics; they are reflected therein as in a mirror. The cynic tells us that a newspaper is the expression of but one individual—its editor; forgetting that that individual could not for a day maintain his paper, were his ideas not the development of popular ideas, and did they not find some responsive feeling in the minds of his readers. To run counter to the national traits is fatal. Therefore it is, that if we would study a foreign nation, we have only to sit down to a file of its newspapers.—*Chambers' Journal*.

LATELY the *Worcester Journal* has been edited by a gentleman formerly on *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, Mr. Charles Boutel, who has this week appealed against the proprietary in the opposition paper, the *Herald*. During his conduct of the paper, his sub-editor's dismissal created quite a scandal in the old city, and Mr. Boutel seems inclined to make the place additionally hot for the poor old journal. It is always a misfortune when a newspaper of any reputation falls into the hands of non-newspaper people, who presume on its supposed influence and expect the editorial "we" to make positions for them in society. In these days the public not only look for their money's worth in a paper, but they will have it in real professional journalistic work. We have a personal feeling for the welfare of the *Journal*. Will no one rescue it from itself? What is the Conservative party about?—*Illustrated Midland News*.

AMONG NEW VENTURES, are the *Radcliffe Observer* and *Prestwich Chronicle*, published at Radcliffe Bridge, and the *Galloway Gazette*, at Newton Stewart—both weekly.

THE EDITOR'S DREAM.

There were packets and letters, on various matters,
And on them he gazed in despair;
In a heap they lay piled; till midnight he toiled,
And he then fell asleep in his chair.

As he dreamed, with surprise, they grew monstrous in size,
In a corner he headlong was pushed—
He struggled with might to get free from the weight,
Till his bones seemed all broken and crushed.

When he cried for relief, to his horror and grief,
The reporter came in at the door;
And he saw with alarm, that under his arm,
A bundle of speeches he bore.

Next a poet arose, all in old tattered clothes,
With a bundle of lyrics and odes;
"With your leave, Sir," he said; he them placed on his head,
And they felt damp and heavy as soda.

Then in came the post, and on him he tossed
A load that nigh stifled his breath—
About shipping disasters, rows with servants and masters,
Of accidents, fevers, and death.

And even the types came rattling in heaps,
And to join in the fray were not slack;
To his further distress the huge metal press
Hobbled in, and sat up on his back.

With sorrow and dool, in a dark muddy pool
He was slowly beginning to sink;
And the "devil" stood near with a sly roguish leer,
And o'er him was pouring the ink.

He looked all around, but no pity he found,
For when he implored them for aid,
In his mouth there was thrust, as stale as a crust,
Two letters from X Y and Z.

With a jump and a yell, on the fender he fell;
He awoke and sat up in his chair—
He sat gasping for breath, the picture of death,
As he thought on his Paper Nightmare.

THE "GLASGOW HERALD" has opened a London Office at 97, Fleet Street.

THE "LITTLE JOURNAL OF IDEAS" professes to be the organ of the advocates of "an Universal Republic."

LOWESTOFT.—A new Conservative weekly paper called the *Lowestoft Observer* appeared in that flourishing Suffolk town on the 2nd of July.

WHAT IS A NEWSPAPER?—The Society of Arts have written, through their secretary, to Lord Hartington, to protest against the definition of a newspaper given in the Post Office Bill. It involves the paper "not being stitched." The Council suggest that the requirement should be—a periodical publication "appearing at intervals of not more than seven days."

"THE TIMES" and the War.—The *Times* of the 21st has a bitter leader, showing how deeply it has been stung by the veto placed by its own friends upon its employing its "own" correspondent. The following words read very like the utterances of a fractious child, but let the nurses take due warning, for it is a child that has kicked things to pieces before now—cabinets included:—

"We little expected that when the King of Prussia and General von Moltke were ready to receive our correspondents they would have been stayed by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Cardwell. Yet so it is. It has been decided in the Cabinet that no British officer either on full pay or half pay shall have leave to go to the seat of war, for fear his presence should excite the susceptibilities of the French Emperor. When this information reached us we could scarcely believe it possible. The Cabinet might, at least, have waited till the Emperor Napoleon objected to the presence of our correspondents in the Prussian camp. But, in truth, he would never have raised any objection at all, for, if the Intelligence had aroused any feeling in the Imperial mind, it would have been that of joy to think that he might derive from their letters some trustworthy information as to his adversary's operations. The Emperor Napoleon, in our opinion, would have been the very last person to object, and this officious proceeding of the Cabinet has only afforded a proof of servility which will be quite lost on the great personage whom it was intended to conciliate."

THE "LONDON LETTER."—The *London Figaro* observes that Mr. Edmund Yates is not above writing a London letter every week to a little paper printed at Malvern. And, what is more, Mr. Yates signs his contributions with his name at full length, which, by the way, the local editor also prints at the head of the letter, so that the respected name of Edmund Yates is in a fair way of becoming known at Malvern. *Figaro* does not appear to be aware of the circumstances under which Mr. Yates's letters appear in small provincial journals. They are farmed by a great London advertising agent, who provides the local editor with a column of Edmund Yates in consideration of the insertion of a column of London advertisements. The same London letter, signed by the author of "Black Sheep," appears on the same date in a large number of provincial journals in different parts of the kingdom.

THE "BIRMINGHAM DAILY GAZETTE."—The *Brighton Daily News* says—"Mr. Harrison, who for fifteen years past has taken an active part in the conduct of the *Daily Telegraph*, is about to leave that paper to take the management of the *Birmingham Gazette*. Mr. Harrison, who has been engaged on the penny Press ever since it commenced in 1855, will not, we believe, be allowed to leave London without some recognition of the services he has rendered to cheap literature."

MR. BROGDEN, who established with great success a penny paper in Lincoln, has retired and sold his interest to Mr. E. R. Cousins, who for some years was proprietor of the *Lincolnshire Times* and, afterwards, of the *Lincolnshire Chronicle*. Mr. Cousins is an excellent journalist, and we wish him a fresh lease of success and prosperity with his new paper.

THE "WORCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE," a Liberal newspaper, edited by Mr. Knight, a journalist of the old school, and a man of considerable literary ability, is going into the old *Journal* quarters at The Cross. The editor announces his removal this week, and the friends of his paper will regard the change as one of great importance. The *Chronicle* will, we believe, change its size and conform to the ordinary shape of newspapers in the present day.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—At the meeting of this learned body at Leicester on July 27th, papers were read on "Roman Leicester" by Mr. James Thompson, the editor of the *Leicester Chronicle*, and on "The Last Battle of the Roses," by Mr. J. Tom Burgess, the editor of the *Leamington Courier*.

A GOOD LAW.—In the United States if a man receives a newspaper regularly containing his advertisement, and does not order it to be discontinued, he is legally liable for the debt. This is justice and equity, and we intend to ascertain if it is not also law in England and France.—*Cosmopolitan*.

MR. HENRY BARNET has retired from the editorship of the *Globe*.

THE "WEEKLY DISPATCH."—We hear it stated that the *Weekly Dispatch* has again changed hands, and that the property has been purchased of Mr. George Stiff by Mr. John Baker for a large sum.—*Stationer*.

"PLEASE TO PUT THIS IN THE PAPER."—The *Shields Gazette*, being in luck, has been favoured by some Pitman with the following phonographic communication—"Sir, please to put this in the Pappers to let the Publick no that a boy named C. C. well none in the fish market By all the keeleam for the bad beaver to his mother for blackin' her eyes 3 times since christmas day and turenin her out of doors the boys age 17 years the Mothers age 504 years."

A HINT FOR TRADESMEN.—The *Niagara Mail* says that advertising goods "is jest like *snorin'* or takin' a crying baby to church. If you sleep in church and don't snore, how's folks on the back seats or in the gallery to know you are there? and in regard to the baby, folks would never know you could raise one, if, when nurse takes him to church, he didn't begin to let off steam. But when he yells out good and strong, everybody, parson and all, feel mity good; they look at him and say to themselves, 'fine baby that, by hokey! a regular young rhinoceros-cow, by gum!' The more he bellers the more people know it, and the more they know it, the more they think about it!"

THE "LEEDS MERCURY."—The *Leeds Mercury* dates its origin from May, 1718. The earliest numbers known to be in existence are from Nov., 1719, to Nov. 8, 1720. Like the other weekly newspapers of the time, says Mr. Edward Baines, M.P., in the life of his father, it was then of insignificant dimensions, printed in twelve pages of small quarto, with large type, and contained altogether about five thousand words, or little more than the contents of two columns of the modern paper. The price was three halfpence. It was unstamped, the duty being levied only on papers of a single sheet, whereas the *Mercury* consisted of a sheet and a-half. It contained scraps of London and foreign news, all extracted from the London papers, but not more than a paragraph of local news about once a month. As to the local news, the less the better, if the following paragraph Mr. Baines has reprinted be a fair specimen as regards style and grammar:—"Leedes, Jan. 28, 1728.—We hear from Woolley, near Wakefield, of a Apple Tree that bloom'd in November last has now some scores of Apples thereon, some of which are said to be as big as Walnuts; and from Batley we are informed that young Stock Doves was taken in that Parish a fortnight ago. And from Tong, in Christmas last, Eggs were taken out of Magpy Nest; and at Stone Hill Top, near Yeaddon, the like were taken there." Ah, if this kind of writing would go down now what an easy life of it the literary man would have. In illustration of the state of periodical literature at that time in England it may be mentioned that in the year 1724 there were in London only nineteen newspapers, of which three were daily, ten published three days a week, and six weekly. In that year it was stated in the petition of a London printer, Samuel Negus, to Lord Townshend, the Secretary of State, that there were twenty-eight printing-houses in England out of London, and the petitioner, who, says Mr. Baines, "was a traitor to his profession, and, seeking Government employment by giving information, added that the country printers in general copy from the rankest papers in London, and thus the poison is transmitted from one hand to another through all His Majesty's dominions."—*Literary World*.

PRESS PROGRESS OF A CENTURY.—For half a century from the days of the *Spectator*, the number of British and Irish newspapers was 67. In 1782 there were only seventy-nine, but in the succeeding eight years they increased rapidly.—There was "great news" stirring in the world in that interval—the American War, the French Revolution: besides which, the practice had sprung up of giving domestic occurrences in fuller detail than heretofore, and journals became more interesting from that cause. In 1790 they had nearly doubled in number, having reached one hundred and forty-six. This augmentation took place partly in consequence of the establishment of weekly papers—which originated in that year—and of which thirty-two had been commenced before the end of it. In 1809, twenty-nine and a half-millions of stamps were issued to newspapers in Great Britain. The circulation of journals naturally depends upon the materials existing to fill them. While wars and rumours of wars were rife they were extensively read, but with the peace their sale fell off. Hence we find, that in 1821 no more than twenty-four millions of newspapers were disposed of.

Obituary.

BOGUSLAWSKY, STANISLAUS, editor of the Polish journal *Kurjer Warszawski*, at Warsaw.

FALLS, HENRY J., proprietor of the *Maitland Mercury*, at Melbourne.

HATFIELD, C. W., one of the proprietors of the *Doncaster Gazette*, and late Mayor of Doncaster, aged 53.

PALMER —, many years an artist on the *Illustrated London News*.

PARADOL, PREYOST, an eminent French journalist, at Washington, whither he had gone as representative of France.

STREPFLEUR, VALENTIN VON, editor of the Austrian *Militärtsche Zeitschrift*, at Vienna, aged 62.

WILLIAMS, JOHN, for forty-seven years editor and proprietor of the *Cambrian* newspaper, at Swansea, in his 82nd year, July 18th.

YOUNG, MURDO, many years proprietor and editor of the *Sun* London newspaper, at Brighton, in his 80th year, July 10th.

Notes and Queries.

"AN IRISH FRIEND."—The *Freeman's Journal* was at one time—certainly in 1827—the property of Henry Grattan, Esq., M.P.

A. D.—A Mr. Bennet was editor of the *Glasgow Free Press* about 1835 or 6. Mr. Reginald H. Blewitt, subsequently M.P., was for some time editor and proprietor of the *Monmouthshire Merlin*.

"SUSSEX ADVERTISER," Q.—This was one of the oldest papers in the south of England, dating from 1745. Mr. Mercer, of Sidescomb, near Battle, possessed some years ago an almost complete file from the commencement. The Earl of Malmesbury had a perfect file from No. 1. of the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*. In 1840, that paper was the property of Mr. Bird Brodie, M.P., and was edited by Mr. Charles Waterson.

"HOW TO TELL A CAXTON."—An excellent little *Vade Mecum*, bearing this title, comes to us from Mr. Blades, of Abchurch Lane. It not only contains directions, divested of all technicalities, for identifying the products of Caxton's press, but gives sixteen plates of *fac similes* of the types used by him and his contemporaries. We strongly advise all collectors and typographical archaeologists to procure it.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

SMITH and Co., Liverpool, newspaper proprietors.

BANKRUPT.

EDWARDS, HENRY ARTHUR, Upper Thames Street, newspaper proprietor.

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CHURCH OPINION is no party paper. Its pages are open to all members of the universal Church, and the articles are selected impartially from all papers,—Church of England, Nonconformist, and Roman Catholic newspapers—thus enabling men of every party to gain an insight into the state of Opinion among those who differ from them; an advantage, it is believed, not before presented, as its readers have thus an opportunity of judging of the motives which actuate those who disagree with them, and of the arguments by which they support their course of action. It is handsomely printed in large foolscap folio—the size of the *Saturday Review*, *Spectator*, &c. If preserved for binding, it will form a valuable record each year of the Opinions of the leading papers on Ecclesiastical subjects, and will become also an impartial Record of Contemporary Religious Thought and Intelligence. To Clergymen, and Churchmen generally at home,—in the English Dominions abroad,—in the United States of America,—and, indeed, in that Greater Britain, wherever the English language is spoken—this paper will be particularly useful, as it will present them with the views of the day on those subjects in which they naturally take a deep interest.

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Will be inserted from time to time to enable Churchmen to obtain information on all matters connected with Liturgiology, Church Music, Hymnology, Campanology, and other points of interest, and also to form a medium for the interchange of plans for practical work in the Church's cause. Communications on these and kindred subjects are respectfully desired.

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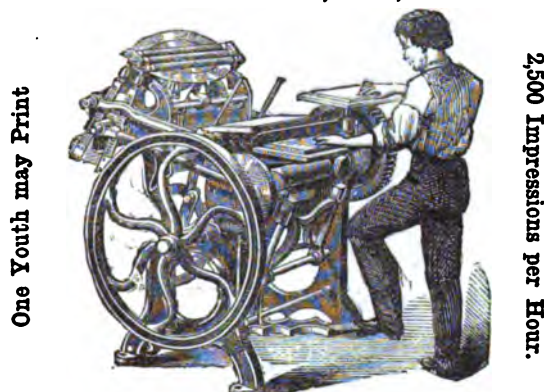
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TESTIMONIALS.

31, Ducklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

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Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

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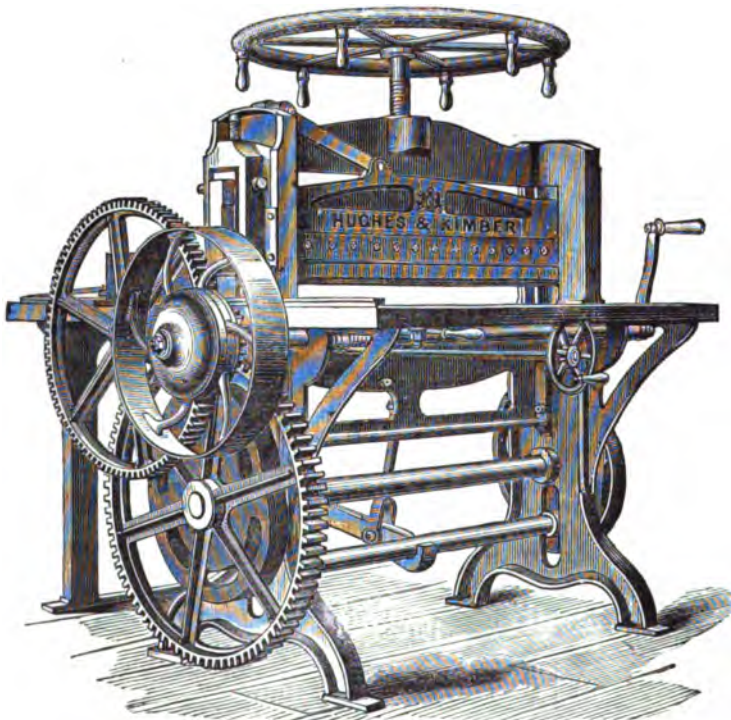
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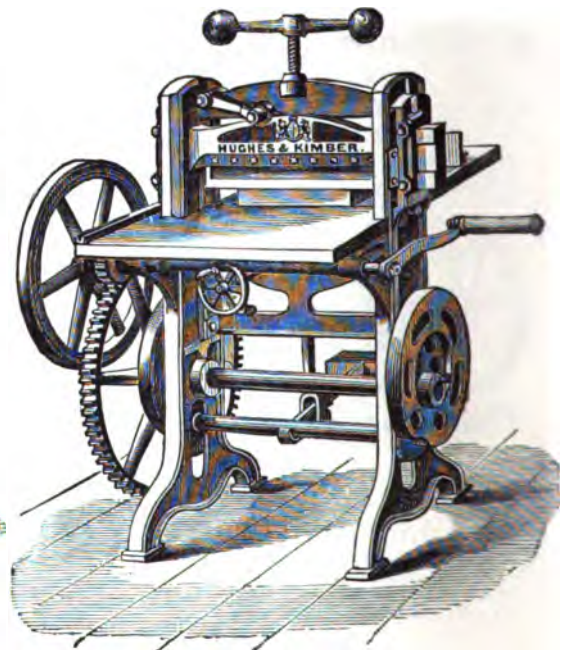
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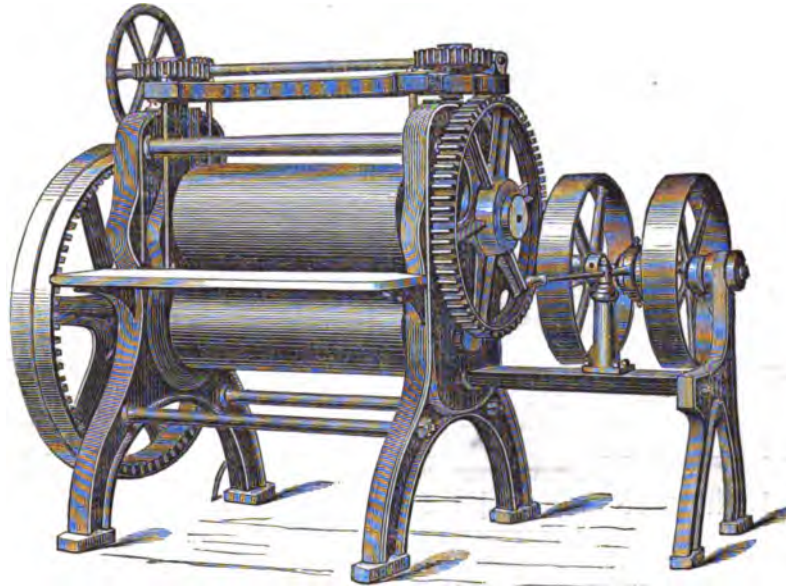
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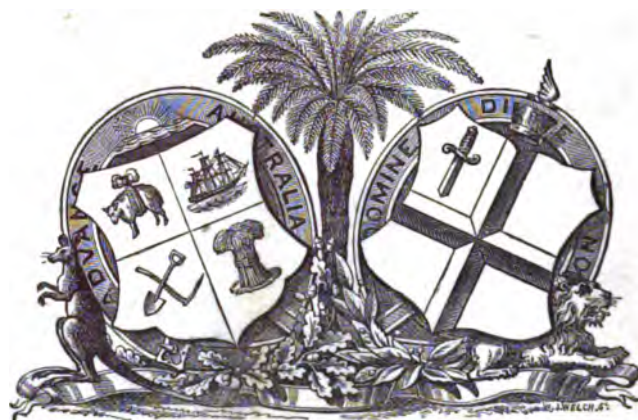
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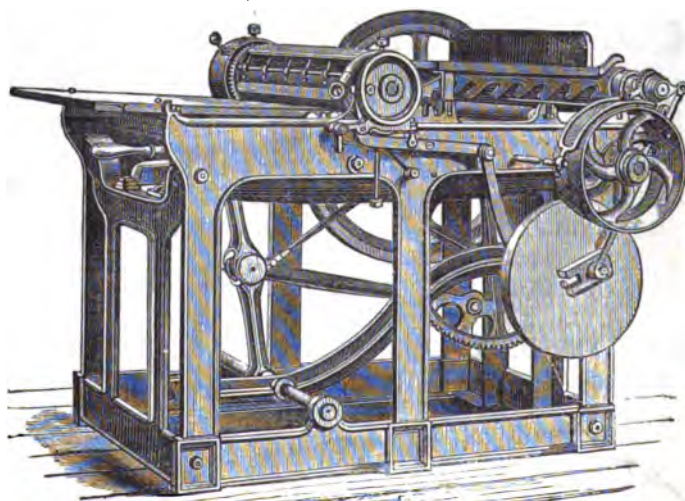
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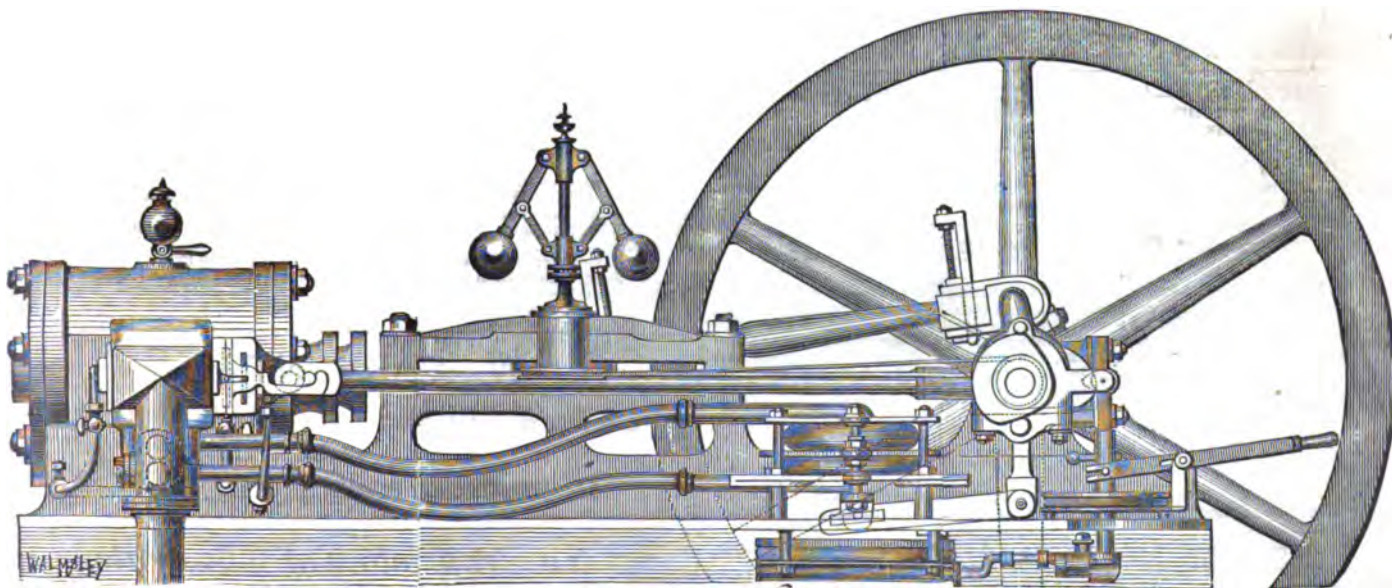
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THE "wicked and wilful war" (as we believe all dispassionate people are agreed in calling it), which has been worked up to the disgrace of the civilisation of our times, and to the confusion of our vainglorious and premature boasts of "progress," has sadly disorganised our continental correspondence. Last month, till the time when we ought to have gone to press, we were in possession only of a letter from our second Paris correspondent; but, at the eleventh hour, a long delayed bundle of letters arrived. Willing hands at once set them up, and by their ready working long after office hours, and our withdrawal of matter provided for the emergency, we were enabled to make room for them, and to make our appearance with the punctuality on which we have always prided ourselves. But we must forewarn our readers that while Captain Sword has superseded Captain Pen, they must be prepared for a smaller allowance of Foreign Press news. Several of our regular continental reporters are now in the wake of the rival armies, doing duty as "specials." Our Hamburg correspondent wrote us last month that he had despatched his letter earlier than usual, as the mail trains were impressed into the service of the "dogs of war," and the ordinary post had to take its chance by goods and coal trains; and, as he had had troops billeted in his house, who had just departed, and a fresh supply had just entered it, our readers will make allowance for the brevity of his letter. But we promise them to make up for the deficiency of Foreign Press intelligence by printing an extra allowance of domestic news of interest, of which we have a supply on hand capable of lasting as long (we hope) as this wretched and shameful war is likely to last. If it should turn out that this great scandal of the nineteenth century has been mainly fomented by journalist-politicians of the continent, it is probable that our subscribers will rather read of the peaceful progress and bloodless revolution achieved by the English Press, than care about the abuse of that mighty engine, which seems, on the other side of the water, to lead only to the alternatives of internal convulsion or foreign aggression.

If, however, the Press writers of France have been instrumental in fostering a bellicose spirit, or of fanning the first spark into a flame that is consuming the villages of fair Alsace, it must be confessed that they have not shrunk from a practical participation in the horrors and dangers of the war. The special correspondents accredited by Paris journals are reported to have fought in the

thickest of the fray—three journalists were "killed" at Weissenburg—several are wounded—some taken prisoners by the Germans—and others reported "missing." So that, mischievous as their writings may have been, they have turned out to be no idle vapourings of men who are content to sit at home at ease, throwing their firebrands broadcast and keeping themselves at a safe distance, as is the usual wont of demagogues and sowers of storms—for they are fairly in the harvest of the whirlwind. But despite their possible sincerity and positive pluck, they are scarcely men that the Press can be proud of. They have simply mistaken their vocation, and had better have been soldiers from the first than militant journalists—better, at all events, for the cause of civilisation.

The correspondents attached to the leading English, Scotch, and Irish papers appear to have comported themselves as might have been expected of them. With a profound sense of the gravity of the situation and a thorough appreciation of their duties, they have done their best for the proprietors by whom they were commissioned, and the public who trusted in their veracity. Without any foolish bravado, they have shirked no part of their work because it lay within bullet range. In the face of danger, in the hurry of a march, during the warring of the elements, they ever weighed the words which they were sending forth for excited readers; and we have only seen one letter in which the solemnity of their mission seems to have been overlooked—that communication "From the War Path," contributed to a morning contemporary by a gentleman who seems to think his readers must have a "funny" letter from him at all times and under any circumstances. But we are happy to observe that his style has become sobered since the dreadful realities of war have assumed their present hideous proportions.

The *City Press* says an ill-natured thing or two; but we apply it (as we think it is meant) in the castigation of one or two idle amateur writers who make all sorts of excuses "for not getting their papers properly countersigned," and skulk about the environs of Paris; or the still worse lot of manufacturers of sensational news, who never get beyond the purlieus of the Fleet Street courts. If these are the gentry our civic contemporary is striking at, we say, emphatically, "Hit them hard!" But we fancy the fellows have outwitted themselves, for we have not seen their lying programmes lately. But, as a warning to others of the same class, we reprint the somewhat testy complaints of the *City Press* (always under the belief that they apply to the amateur, or the home manufactured article):—

"The special correspondents who do the seat of war business for the morning papers are in a fair way of becoming a nuisance. Of course, being men of talent they draw large salaries, and of course, drawing large salaries, they are bound to make pretty extensive returns; but, after all, our thirst for the sort of knowledge they have to communicate is not insatiable. Information evidently does not reach them in copious streams, and they take particular good care to make the most of what they do manage to get hold of, the result being that their letters are dreadfully pumped-up affairs, by no means worth the space they so relentlessly occupy. Who, for instance, cares to be told that the representative of his favourite journal had half-an-hour's conversation with a private soldier and learned nothing from him? or to find half a column, which might have been filled with news, devoted to the narration of sundry very ordinary and commonplace doings of two or three literary twaddlers? Patriotism, too, is pretty much the same thing all the world over; and seeing that we grow a good deal of it here, we don't care for elaborate accounts of its birth and progress in every out-of-the-way and unheard-of place. Nor can we spare time for the perusal of endless prologues on the fancied origin and possible termination of the war, just because they happen to be penned (at least we are charitable enough to suppose such to be the case) near the scene of operations. Of course we don't wish our "specials" to follow the example of the energetic individual who, in order to get a bird's-eye view of the opposition camp, seated himself on a bombshell just before it went off. It is said that he went off too, and failed to return. But we do wish they would find something worth writing about; or if they really are reduced to the position of the needy knife-grinder, and have no story to tell, that they would say so and have done with it."

This reads pettish and angry, but we only adopt it as an exposition of our own sentiments when we are surfeited with the twaddle of pretended "correspondents" who treat us to historical reminiscences of the safe quarters they are lodged in, and make lame excuses for not following "the orders I have just found upon my dressing table." These are not the "special correspondents" we desire to give all honour to. They are simply—well, there is no other word ready—*humbugs*!

THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PRESS.

IX.—THE PENNY-A-LINER.

At the first glance it would seem a misnomer to class the light skirmisher of the Press with the ordinary rank and file. The "fimsy" writer is, however, an important member of the newspaper world, and there are but few editors who have not at various periods of their editorial existence, and when in divers extremities, blessed the institution of "fimsy," while they mentally cursed the diffuse fancy of the writer, who generally managed to clothe his facts with a cloud of verbiage. His facts were welcome, his verbiage was not. He was, as his name implies, paid by the line and not by the importance of his news, and hence arose that cultivation of superlatives and synonyms which enabled him to coin money out of lazy sub-editors and editorial necessities for "copy."

The universal penny, which has become so great a favourite with newspaper proprietors, and made them literally the greatest of all penny-a-liners, has had a beneficent influence on the class of discursive reporters known by that once most opprobrious of Press names. The penny-a-liner no longer exists, for there are but few papers who pay at so small a rate at the present day. The increased value of literary labour and the demand for news has affected the lowest as well as the highest of literary labourers, and the "fimsy" writer can now obtain three-half-pence, and in some cases two-pence for every printed line that appears in the newspaper of his composition. It is true that the higher amount is seldom paid for "fimsy," but if time permits, a knowing "liner" will know how to make a fair copy for the papers willing to pay for the "special" character of its intelligence. With this increased demand for his labour, the "liner" has discovered that a clear, succinct narrative of facts pays better in the long run than an occasional haul on the occasion of some great event, when all his copy is inserted. His copy, if known to be close and accurate, is sure of acceptance under these circumstances, when his compeers fail, for sub-editors have no great fondness for wading through a sea of "fimsy" and striking out the redundant expressions, figurative illustrations, and the extraordinary adjectives and superlatives, only to find the result some unimportant event which the public will grudge to read if inserted.

The profession of "lining" seems to be a remnant of the Grub Street days of the literary world. The aspirant for literary or journalistic fame finds the avenues of celebrity and of fortune closed to him; either his habits are not regular, or he dislikes the routine toil of newspaper life. Sometimes he finds that he has overrated his own abilities, or has not taken into account the possibility of cleverer men being in existence, and so he gradually falls back into the position of an outsider, a hanger on the skirts of the Press, and derives therefrom a precarious but, if steady, a fair livelihood. He is not to be confounded with the "professional reporter" who has chambers, and who makes out his bills per folio. The "liner" seldom receives commission, and his labour is speculative. The misfortunes of other men are bread for his children. An overwhelming calamity rejoices his heart, for it means a month's rent. He deplores a conflagration only when he cannot obtain the particulars, or a rival is in the field before him. Hence he is on intimate terms with the policeman and firemen of his district. He learns early the occurrence of an accident; he is great at inquests, where the coroner benignly recognises his presence. His manifold writer, his small slips of paper, his little but rapid pen and well thumbed note book, are a part of the institution of the oldest court in the United Kingdom, which any metropolitan juror will re-

cognise as a visible embodiment of the Press in the sterner realities of life.

The country liner is altogether a different being. In a few large towns only he has a separate existence from the ordinary newspaper reporter, who adds a little to his salary by forwarding short paragraphs to the London or provincial dailies when anything extraordinary occurs. The liberty to do this is generally conceded, and is often expressly provided for in the engagement. Occasionally this source of income produces a considerable sum. A man of note dies suddenly, or after a lingering illness. A notice of his death and a few facts of his life are generally accepted. A terrific railway accident makes a large sum, but is frequently divided amongst several. Still it is universally accepted, and therefore profitable. The speech of a statesman on some popular topic is a godsend to some poor struggling reporter who knows how to condense and forward it. A speech of the late Lord Palmerston was delivered in a remote town, and one of the reporters suggested to his comrade that it was worth "lining," and suggested the division of the spoil. The other demurred to this reasonable proposition, and immediately proceeded to write out his slips, produce his envelopes, and exhibit other signs of preparation. A glance at the clock showed the first gentleman that there was time to catch a train to a neighbouring junction. As he went to the station he met a young friend, took him with him, and in the waiting room at the junction wrote out the speech six folios at a time; his friend copied it at the same rate, so that ere the express dashed up three hours afterwards he had a dozen copies of the speech ready a column long. They reached their destination early by this *comp.* They came when "copy" was scarce, and were all accepted in full except one, which was somewhat abridged. They were in type when the "fimsy" of the slower countryman arrived, who had to wait for a slower train to despatch his copy. This is one instance only of many which shows the advantage of a knowledge of not only what is wanted on a newspaper, but when and how to forward it.

When there is like to be a political meeting of interest, or a scientific gathering of importance, orders are given for the report to be paid at the usual rate of three-half-pence a line, or a gross sum for the whole report. There are some reporters who offer to forward the report of an agricultural meeting, for example, for a ridiculously small sum, trusting to a large number of orders. This underselling is not encouraged by any newspaper of standing, because they want a special, well written report, and not a mere copy of what every paper in the country would produce.

The regular liners in the large towns are retired reporters, who have partially adopted some other business, but who have retained the office of correspondent to distant papers. In cases of emergency they sometimes receive a special commission from the local papers to aid them. This position is frequently a very comfortable one, and is seldom assailed by any new comer. The representative of the London Press feels no little importance in his small sphere, and if he is paid by the line it ought not to be a matter of ridicule, or contempt, for the greatest and best writers living are frequently so paid, and the annals of our literature would have been free from more than one stigma if Milton had been paid by the line for his "Paradise Lost," and others, whose names are equally familiar, had received even a farthing a line for their undying thoughts.

It is sometimes a matter of wonder that the manifold writer is not more generally used amongst Press men when away from home. We know of no more ready, simple and sure mode of writing copy, than writing even a single slip at a time with the style. All that is necessary is a packet of "reporters' blacks," as the best kind of carbonic paper is called; a piece of tin or zinc, eight inches by five, which should have the corners rounded, and a few sheets of tissue. It may be oiled by brushing it over with rape oil five or six times a quire, and then letting it soak for twelve hours. It should then be turned until the oil permeates every sheet equally, and it assumes the appearance of fine tracing paper. The best styles are those made of agate, but one steel tipped, or even the end of a bone or ivory penholder rounded and ground to a point, will be found all that is necessary. Black or carbonic paper may be made by rubbing thin demy with lampblack and lard. Soap is sometimes used

instead of lard, but no home made paper, or indeed the usual carbonic paper of the stationers, equals the "reporters' blacks," sold in London for the use of the ubiquitous, but useful and despised penny-a-liner.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

NO. XX.—RIGHT OF COMMENT ON THE PRACTICES AND SYSTEMS OF MEDICAL MEN; INCLUDING THE ADVERTISING SYSTEM.

THE case of HUNTER v. SHARP came before the Court of Queen's Bench in 1866. It was an action for a libel contained in an article in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, of the 10th November, 1865, consisting of comments on a series of advertisements issued by the plaintiff, in which he described himself as an M.D., having, it appeared, got some diploma at New York. The defendant pleaded "Not guilty," and also a special plea of justification affirming the truth of the statements "in substance and effect."

The following is an extract from the article complained of, and which formed the principal part of the libel set out in the declaration. It was headed—"Impostors and Dupes," and ran thus:—"Persons who turn over the pages of the cheap newspapers in search of the curiosities of advertising will have noticed the frequent recurrence of a whole column, purporting to give a consecutive series of extracts from a medical work on consumption by a person signing himself 'Robert Hunter, M.D.' If they have taken the trouble to read its uninviting paragraphs they will have found that they are a long rignmarole of some scientific declamation, professing to expound to the non-professional invalid the causes and symptoms of disease of the lungs, and to prove that nobody knows how to cure it except this same Dr. Hunter, whose method is one of inhalation. On the face of all this there is nothing more than the puffery of the dealers in various pills, potions, ointments, and liniments, who rejoice in the profusion of testimonials from innumerable correspondents who bless the day that they first made their acquaintance. That any reputable physician would thus advertise for patients is, of course, out of the question; but, although these advertisements are free from the mysterious hints and suggestions and the scarcely veiled offensive phraseology of the basest class of medical puffs, one is led to suspect the existence of very serious malpractices by observing the length and frequency of these recommendations of Dr. Hunter and his inhalations. When a man finds it worth his while to insert a very costly advertisement in several papers, and to go on with it from day to day, or week to week, it is clear that his patients must be dupes of a very different class from the simple people who buy pills by the gross and potions by the gallon. Nor need there be any actual difficulty in putting a stop to such advertisements by act of parliament. It should be an indelible offence for any man to call himself a physician, surgeon, apothecary, or dentist, unless empowered to practise by the colleges or societies recognised by the law of the land. The assumption of all foreign medical degrees should be absolutely forbidden under the same penalties, whether claimed by English subjects or foreigners. English subjects are forbidden to assume any foreign title or rank without the permission of the crown. But what would be the evil of permitting some foolish gentleman to call himself 'count' or 'baron' compared with the mischief done by scoundrels who utter this base forged coin and claim to be respected as qualified physicians on the strength of some diploma obtained in Canada or New York?"

On the defendant pleading a justification of this publication, the plaintiff applied to the court for a rule to compel the defendant to furnish particulars of the specific acts with which he intended to charge the plaintiff, together with a list of the persons whom he intended to call as witnesses to support the plea. The court, however, refused the application. The Lord Chief Justice said the charge justified was founded upon the plaintiff's own publications, which it was open to any one to criticise and comment upon, as revealing a system of quackery which the defendant denounced as he had a right to do. That

system was the advertising of particular modes of curing consumption, under the auspices and with the apparent authority of a medical degree obtained abroad, but which would be naturally supposed to have been conferred by some British college, and which thus was used to convey a sanction or authority which might not really belong to it; and, further, that the mode of cure thus published and put before the world by every species of puffery, was purely illusory, and that, in short, the whole system was one of mere puffery. Now a public journal had a right to comment upon publications of this kind, especially if they partook of the character of puffery. The meaning of the libel and of the plea was this: You, the plaintiff professing to describe yourself as a "doctor," represent yourself publicly as possessed of a perfect cure for consumption or pulmonary complaints, which in reality is mere nonsense. You are taking people's money for what is doing them no good. Your pretended "degree" conveys the idea of a British degree, whereas it is not so. Your thus advertising for patients is unprofessional, and a course which no respectable physicians adopt. And in short, the whole thing is quackery, and in this way you are an impostor and a quack. Now, that being the substance and scope of the libel, it is also the substance and scope of the plea, and it is perfectly intelligible and sufficiently explicit. No other matter could be open to the defendant to plead under that plea. That being so, the plea was fairly allowable, and no "particulars" were required.

The application to strike out the plea of justification being thus refused, the cause came on for trial at Westminster, at the *Nisi Prius* sittings, in November, 1866, before the Lord Chief Justice, and a special jury. It occupied five days, extending to the 1st of December, when it was concluded. A great mass of evidence was gone into on both sides. In summing up, the Lord Chief Justice observed to the jury, that under the principal head of defence, the case was thus presented:—The defendant says that it was a matter of public interest and public concern; that the plaintiff invited people by his advertisements to submit to his system of treatment; and that if he, the defendant, really believed it to be a delusion, then he had a right to maintain that it was so; and that even if, in drawing inferences of imposture and bad intention, he fell into error, yet if he wrote honestly, and with the intention of exercising his vocation as a public writer, fairly and with reasonable moderation and judgment, he is entitled to the verdict. And I entirely agree in that view. Here is a man challenging public criticism by bringing forward what he professes to be a new system of treatment, and inviting the public to adopt it as the only means of curing the most destructive disease known among us. In doing this he challenges public criticism, and if a public writer, using such a reasonable degree of temper and moderation as behoves any one who makes imputations upon others—if a public writer, thus discussing the subject in the exercise of his vocation, falls into error as to the facts or the inferences, and goes beyond the limits of strict truth, he is nevertheless privileged. The occasion is a privileged one, and if the privilege is exercised honestly, faithfully, and with reasonable regard to what truth and justice require, then, though he may exceed the limits of what he can legally prove to be the truth, he is protected from liability. It is not therefore necessary that the justification should appear to you to be made out entirely if you think that the defendant, or the writer, was in the reasonable and honest exercise of his vocation as a public writer, even although he was not fully warranted in drawing the inferences he did as to the conduct of the plaintiff. As you may be of opinion, therefore, on one or other of these questions your verdict will depend. Assuming that it is for the plaintiff, then will arise the question of damages. The article certainly was one calculated to inflict great pain and cause much injury. It is written with extreme bitterness and severity, and its language is of the strongest description. But you must not forget the circumstances under which it was written. It has been suggested that it was written by some medical man. I think it is extremely likely, and I hope that it was so, for in that fact I should find great ground for indulgence, even if you should think the article neither justified nor excused; because it is plain to any man who reads it, that it was written in a spirit of honest indignation, such as a member of the medical profession well might feel, see—

ing the way in which a member of it was soiling and degrading its honour and character by this system of advertisement. And if the writer of the article was satisfied in his own mind—as you cannot doubt he was—that the plaintiff's system was delusive and that he himself was a pretender and a quack, then we cannot wonder that in his honest indignation he should have put gall into the ink when he wrote to expose the conduct which he denounced. It was not the case of a man sitting down to gratify personal spite or professional malice, but a man writing honestly to denounce what he honestly believed to be a system of quackery and imposture, and to vindicate the honour and the character of the profession of which he was a member, and to do his duty to the public, in whose interest he was writing.

The jury, at the close of the summing up, retired to consider their verdict, and were absent an hour or two. One point they had to consider, did not arise under the plea of justification. It was, in fact, quite extraneous to the main question. It related to a criminal charge which had been made against the plaintiff by one of his female patients. That charge which had been alluded to incidentally, in one part of the libel in question, had not been sustained, and the plaintiff's counsel claimed damages in respect of the publication of it. The jury, on giving their verdict for one farthing damages, said, in answer to a question by the Lord Chief Justice, that they had considered "the whole of the article;" and thus the case ended.

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.

THE following is the address of Lord Houghton at the general meeting of this fund briefly reported in our last:—

"Gentlemen,—At this annual general meeting of the Newspaper Press Fund I am gratified to be enabled to state to you that the financial condition of this society is most prosperous. We have an invested fund of considerably above £5000, which would be regarded in many other societies as very great wealth, and as evincing a state of things which could hardly require, or even admit of criticism. At the same time I cannot say that to my mind, or so far as I can estimate them, in the opinions of the committee, our condition is entirely satisfactory. We feel that we owe rather too much to the benevolent interest and the generosity of the public. So far as the public are concerned, especially as regards public men of all parties, without the slightest distinction of political opinion, we are justified in saying that they fully appreciate the importance and value of the objects of this institution. Their subscriptions and donations have been most liberal, and testify what from our experience of English politics we had a right to expect, that without a notion of any individual advantage accruing to any man or to any party, the public have recognised the worth of an independent and intellectual Press. Our objects are two-fold; one purely benevolent, that is to say, to relieve persons connected with the Press as a profession under circumstances of difficulty and distress; the other to awaken in the minds of the general body of the profession a due regard to their own permanent interests, a just sentiment of providence and good sense in the administration of their own property, and a general sympathy with the misfortunes of their fellows. Now, on the first point, there is really nothing to be said except to express our gratitude to those who have assisted us. On the second point we make no concealment of the fact that the support which has been given to us by the Press is not altogether such as we had a right to expect. We do not understand how any difficulties should have arisen in this matter; for, although the fund is an assurance fund, yet the amount of subscription which we ask of the members is so small that it falls within the range of almost any person, however subordinate his position in connection with the newspaper Press, to provide for his own misfortunes or those of his family by an annual payment which can hardly practically be more than a little self-denial, or the giving up some mere temporary gratification. It may be objected that the constitution of our society does not give the members an absolutely legal claim in the same sense as does an ordinary insurance company. If we were assured that this objection was of a provident character there would be no difficulty in meeting it, because the practical effect of doing what is desired would really be the same as that which is now realised. We do look upon every contributor who comes to us in his own person for relief in distress, and we also look upon survivors who come to us after the decease of a contributor, as having a just, rightful claim upon our funds; and how far such claims were considered valid beyond the amounts which have been subscribed may be learnt from the cases which we have given in a printed list of grants. I may mention one instance in which £75 has been awarded where the subscription had only been three guineas; another in which £35 has been given to a widow, the subscriptions having only been five guineas; and two cases of grants to children of deceased members, the amount being £30, in each case where the subscriptions had been only four guineas and five guineas. In presenting the report for the last year, therefore, we not only wish to inform the public of the actual condition of this society, but we are desirous of receiving from any quarter information and representations from competent persons as to any means which can be suggested for the purpose, not, indeed, of rendering the institution more available—for we consider that it is performing a very useful function and doing a great deal of practical good, but of enlarging the sphere of its duties, and of imbuing the minds of the intelligent and well-remunerated body of gentlemen engaged on the newspaper Press with the same feeling that actuates men of letters and art in the promotion of the success of such estab-

lishments as the Literary Fund and the two great artists' institutions. If we have to thank the public for their pecuniary liberality, we must not omit the expression of our gratitude to the distinguished men who have filled the office of chairman at our anniversary dinner, and of whose names any society might justly be proud. One of them has but lately passed away amidst the grief and sympathy not only of this country, but of the civilised world, and all we can do is to add one more wreath to those which, with cordial concurrence from the highest to the lowest of his admirers, fell upon his grave in Westminster Abbey. We will ask our other distinguished friends to continue their support of this society, and we cannot separate without again returning thanks to Mr. Tomline for his munificent donation of a great work of art, which will have the double advantage of giving to the public a representation of one of the noblest pictures in the world, and of connecting that work of art with the name and interests of our society. For myself, gentlemen, I have to thank you for the kind and cordial manner in which any efforts of mine have been met by all of you, and to express my gratification not only at having been enabled to contribute in some degree to a good work, but also at the pleasant relations into which I have been brought with distinguished men connected with the newspaper Press, of whose diligence, disinterestedness, and benevolence I entertain a distinct and permanent impression.

Mr. Hyde Clarke alluded to the fact that during the year the society had lost by death four of its vice presidents, namely, the Earl of Clarendon, Mr. Mark Lemon, Sir Wentworth Dilke, and Mr. David Keane, Q.C., the three latter of whom had been intimately connected with journalism.

The report having been adopted, On the motion of Mr. James Mould, seconded by Mr. J. H. Doyle, a cordial vote of thanks was given to Lord Houghton for presiding and for his constant and valuable aid in the promotion and management of the fund.

"ALL THE NEWS OF THE WAR!"

WE had purposed giving our country readers some idea of the excitement in the streets of London—the anxious, vehemently argumentative crowds who hang about the news shops of the Royal Exchange, awaiting the "Second Edition of the *Times*,"—the clamouring general public who run after the peripatetic vendors bearing their heaps of wet "quires" of the cheaper papers on their shoulders, who only deign to cast an unfolded sheet to the purchaser as they go tearing on to a better market, and leave the anxious reader with his paper a prey to the winds, in an agony to get at the column which contains the latest news—of the slower but more elaborate process which covers the shops of small tobaccoists, and affords a cheaper knowledge of passing events to crowds of people who cannot spare a penny, yet with very hazy ideas about the positions of Paris or Berlin, crave to know "who's won" the last battle. But we find in the *Daily News* an article ready to hand, which describes the excitement in calmer terms than, in all this bustle, we have at our command:—

"Of course the enormous number of newspapers issued throughout the day could only be distributed by a machinery specially adapted for the emergency. This machinery is provided in great measure by the numerous body of men and lads who at such times embark in the news trade. The trained newsboy, with his handful of coppers which constitute his capital, is an excellent judge of the importance of news. Experience has taught him when he may safely advance from one quire to two, or many more. Give me a good bill, is his cry, for the contents bill is a powerful attraction with the public. A 'victory' is his delight, for it shows well upon the 'Bill' or 'William,' as he sometimes affectionately terms it. We are afraid that it is hardly possible that he can have a due sense of the horrors of war. One little urchin told us yesterday that he had earned as much as eight shillings in an hour and a half. To earn this he must have sold, at the ordinary profit, twelve quires of 36 copies each; but a single speculator of this class has been known to consume in one day no less than 30 quires, or 780 copies. Such things are, of course, exceptional, and in bad times the newsboy is often glad to turn his hand to the work of holding horses, or hanging about railway stations for the chance of carrying a parcel. Indeed there can be no doubt that we have just now a considerable influx into the trade from other such irregular branches of industry. Not a few of those who swarmed in the neighbourhood of the Bank, the Mansion House, and the Royal Exchange yesterday, showed unmistakable signs of being mere recruits. There was the undoubted costermonger in tight corduroys; the seedy light porter out of place; and even the faded old man in black who has known better days. This region is the happy hunting-ground of the street news-vendor. People who walk down Cheap-side or Ludgate-hill must often enough have met with a row of boys and men racing one another eastward with large files of damp newspaper sheets on their shoulders. Their destination is the Exchange; where even the busy newspaper offices under the shadow of the grasshopper are insufficient to meet the public craving for news. The man or boy who can get first to this spot with a batch of important second editions is a fortunate speculator. A shilling has been demanded, and, what is more, has been obtained in this locality for a penny paper. Yesterday we observed that penny papers were for a time not only selling at twopenny, but selling rapidly. Even the all attractive bill seemed here to be superfluous; though one imaginative dealer made up the defect by shouting in an excited way, 'Third Edition, Total Annihilation of the Prussians.' City men have a reputation among the boys for being liberal, and gentlemen of Lloyd's and Bartholomew-lane are reputed to be indifferent in the matter of change when the news is really news in that centre of information. The changes in the newspaper trade during the last twenty years are many and striking. The 'criers' who used to wake the

echoes of the West-end squares after nightfall with a confused jargon about great battles and awful slaughter, went out finally with the Crimean War. Light carts and railway parcels now supply the wants of suburb and country; but for quick distribution throughout the City, there is nothing like the newsboys. The police and the law are sometimes hard upon them. Something like a raid upon the trade was carried out the other day before the Mansion House, but the boys are still there, and yesterday, at least, the police appeared to have abandoned the struggle as hopeless; indeed, anything like serious interference with their useful calling in the City would inevitably provoke a reaction in their favour."

The only fault we find with this otherwise excellent article is that it does not convey (as no words can), the din, the shouting, the rush which attend the distribution of the "Second Globe," "Third Standard," or "Speah-hal Echo." Our country friends should pay a visit to town to realise it. If the "Favorite" omnibus drivers were not very careful in drawing up at the "Angel" at Islington, they would immolate heaps of barefooted newsboys (which might not be taken much account of) and run over scores of merchants rushing after them with outstretched arms (which would). As for the Mansion House, we should not be surprised at any moment to hear of Lord Mayor Bealey being run over or suffocated in the crush for news, which we should regret even more; for he is one of "the right sort," and "was a type-founder once." If he were to come to grief, we should have something worse than these active little retailers of "war news" about us, and how the vendors of the filthy *Ferret*, *Deril*, and *Day's Doings* would rejoice! We trust to his bluff, honest good sense (which we are glad to hear may possibly win him a handle to his name) to let the little retailers of "all the news of the war" carry on their honest trade, even in front of the Mansion House

B. J.

REVIEWS.

Henry J. Raymond and the New York Press for Thirty Years.
By Augustus Maverick. Hartford (Connecticut). A. S. Hale and Co.

[THIRD NOTICE.]

In the notices of the most prominent New York journals of the past half century, Mr. Maverick gives its due meed of praise to the *Evening Post*. This paper has been for more than forty years conducted by the veteran poet William Cullen Bryant, who succeeded William Coleman (the previous editor for eight and twenty years) in 1829, having contributed to its columns since 1826. The *Evening Post* had a history of its own before the accession of Bryant, having been engaged in a wordy war for several years with Cheetham of the *Citizen*, which resulted in a challenge, but was prevented by the interference of friends from coming to a duel. But another "affair" of the same nature between Coleman and a Mr. Thompson terminated in the death of the latter:—

"He was brought, mortally wounded, to his sister's house in town: he was laid at the door, the bell was rung, the family came out and found him bleeding and near his death. He refused to name his antagonist or to give any account of the affair, declaring that everything that had been done was honourably done, and desired that no attempt should be made to seek out or molest his adversary. Mr. Coleman returned to New York and continued to occupy himself with his paper as before."

In 1837 Mr. Bryant himself was challenged by Dr. Holland, the editor of the *New York Times*:—

"Mr. Bryant treated the matter very lightly; he put the challenge in his pocket, and told the bearer that everything must take its proper turn; that Dr. Holland having already been called a scoundrel by Mr. Leggett must give the affair the precedence, and that for his own part he should pay no farther attention to the matter in hand till that was settled. The affair passed off without any consequences."

Of the four leading morning journals of New York, Mr. Maverick speaks in a fair and friendly spirit. The *Tribune*, he says, "still edited by Horace Greeley, holds its own after twenty-nine years of active life. Mr. Greeley has had a long and violent struggle with fortune; but he has succeeded in building up a great newspaper, in obtaining celebrity for himself, and in amassing a comfortable independence. The errors into which his impatient nature hurried him have been atoned by several frank confessions; and his nature has become so temperate in comparison with the unreasoning violence of his earlier years, that it may reasonably be expected he will continue decorous." A well informed writer in a recent number of "Chambers'

Edinburgh Journal" (June 25th, 1870) traces the career of Greeley and the *Tribune* more fully, and we are tempted to supplement Mr. Maverick's remarks with his ampler details:—

"The *Tribune* was a prophet and herald of that Republican party which, owing in no little degree to its own advocacy, is now possessed of irresistible power in American politics. The man himself, who created, and now sways what is nought less than the sceptre of the *Tribune*, may be said to be co-equal with the President in governing the land. There are few offices, elective or appointed, which Horace Greeley, were he less independent, might not command. Horace Greeley was the son of a poor, hard-working New Hampshire farmer, who was hardly able to give his son a common school education. The father had sore troubles: the creditors came in; he was no longer able to support his family. Horace therefore set out from his obscure New England home, to make his fortune in the world, and reached New York in 1831, with just ten dollars as his fortune. He set to work as a printer, and in a few years found himself able to go into a humble business on his own account. In 1833, he made his first venture, by issuing a little penny paper called the *Morning Post*. This failing, Greeley tried again: the following year came out a weekly miscellaneous journal called the *New Yorker*. This had a moderate success, and lived a very respectable life for three years. In the financial crisis of 1837, the *New Yorker*, like many similar enterprises, was swept out of existence. Greeley had but to try once more and succeed. The first number of the *New York Tribune* appeared on the 10th of April, 1841. It was, as Greeley tells us, 'a leaden, funeral morning, the most inhospitable of the year,' which by no means yielded a cheerful or prophetic omen to the new project. Greeley himself was editor-in-chief; his only assistant was Henry G. Raymond, who was destined, ten years later, to establish a journal which rivalled and still rivals the *Tribune*—the *New York Times*. The first week the *Tribune* achieved one thousand subscribers. The circulation then steadily increased by five hundred per week until it reached ten thousand. Within a year it had won an established rank among American newspapers, and had secured for itself a lease of prosperity, which has not yet, nor does it seem likely to, run out. Greeley is a philosopher as well as an editor; and has written many things outside the domain of politics, which have been greatly esteemed in America."

Mr. Maverick thinks "the profits of the *Herald* are larger than those of any other paper in New York, from its large circulation and its enormous advertising patronage; but its influence is among the things of the past." Here, again, we prefer quoting the writer in "Chambers" for a thorough estimate of its founder and present conductor:—

"James Gordon Bennett, the founder, and still, at the age of seventy, the active manager of the *Herald*, is Scotch by birth, having come from Kelth in Banffshire. He was educated for the Romish priesthood; but family misfortunes drove him alike from profession and country. At the age of nineteen, he landed, all but destitute, in New York. Like A. T. Stewart, the great New York merchant, he essayed school-teaching—and, like Stewart, in this fortunately failed. He turned his efforts in a new direction, and chose, happily for himself, the editorial profession. From the small beginnings afforded by a reporter's place on an obscure Southern paper, he rose to an active writer in the metropolitan press. His Scotch energy, and ignorance of the meaning of 'failure,' and the American spirit of enterprise, which had now been instilled into him, prompted him to disengage himself from a dependence upon others, and establish a newspaper on his own account. The *New York Herald* was the golden product of this idea. The first number appeared on the 8th of May, 1855. It was doomed, as all journals are, to struggle on for a while doubtfully, amid many obstacles, and with a trembling tenure of life. But the plucky spirit of its manager gave to the journal its character, and soon made itself felt; and its short period of uncertain trial over, it became a success, then a greater success, and then the most successful of American journals, which is its position at this day."

A Scotchman speaking of a Scotchman generally speaks justly and appreciatively, yet with all proper qualification—an American, particularly a rival, with the best intentions as regards impartiality, is slow at understanding the subtle points of the Scottish character.

The writer will not allow national prejudice to blind his judgment, for he adds:—

"The *Herald* is celebrated, however, not only for having the fullest news, but also for being the most fickle, coarse, and blustering of American papers. In politics it is nothing or anything. To make the sheet sell seems the sole end and aim of the establishment; which accounts at once for its great telegraphic enterprise and its utter want of steadfastness in politics."

This is more than Mr. Maverick says—but it is not more than the truth.

But we must not take any more liberties with Mr. Maverick's observations, and shall let him speak for himself. Of the *World*, he says it was "begun as a religious paper, but long since relinquished the effort to run counter to the laws of Mammon. But it is incisively witty—and successful."

What Mr. Maverick has to say of the *New York Times* we have indicated in previous notices of his book; but he sums up the general position of the four papers in terms which all must endorse:—

"Representing different phases of American life, different ideas of journalism, different methods of thought and action, all are needed:

are prosperous; and there is room for all. At frequent intervals these papers engage in a quadrangular quarrel, but no injury is inflicted which the lapse of a day will not mend; and although the newspaper antagonisms of the time are sometimes bitter, the combatants have learned lessons from the past, and no irate editor now thinks of pistoling his opponent by way of punishment for words written in the heat of acrimonious political argument, or uttered in the fervour of personal animosity. Perhaps, it is not idle to hope for the coming of the time when journalism shall become wholly impersonal, and when the sweeter courtesies of life shall take the place of the pitiful jealousies, the despicable innuendoes, and the malignant falsehoods which have too often sullied the newspaper life in the United States, and especially in New York."

Franklin Society Publications, No. II.—Early Newspapers in Illinois. Read before the Franklin Society of the City of Chicago. By Henry R. Boss, January 30th, 1870. Chicago: Published by the Franklin Society.

We regret that pressure on our space has prevented our noticing this handsome specimen of American typography before, and will preclude our quoting from its forty-eight pages as freely as we could have desired.

There appears to be great obscurity as to the origin of the Illinois Press, although at the longest it dates no further back than 1814 or 1815. Some claim for the first Illinois newspaper the title of *Statesman*, others the *Herald*, but the balance of evidence seems to show that it was called the *Illinois Intelligencer*, and was issued at Kaskaskia, Randolph County, by Matthew Duncan. Of this there seems no doubt, that whether the first paper was called the *Intelligencer* or the *Herald*, Duncan was the producer of it. Mr. Brown, a subsequent proprietor, speaking of the year 1820, describes a state of things which might apply to a hundred years farther back in our own history:—

"It was before the day of telegrams, railroads, or even stage coaches. The duties of an editor were not onerous. No leaders were expected or required. The readers of the *Herald* or the *Intelligencer*, were neither fastidious nor critical, nor at all particular as to the manner of getting up of the hebdomadal sheet for their weekly repast. As the advertising patronage was limited and the circulation small, the newspaper itself must have been a losing concern and even up, to 1837—I speak from experience—barely paid expenses."

Mr. Brown further describes the condition of the office and material when he purchased the property in 1820, and the account he gives might have afforded another paragraph to the article in our last number on the "Pioneer Newspapers of the West":—

"The office was an open log building, one story high, with a roof of clap boards held in place by longitudinal weight poles. Its ventilation was perfect, except when the thermometer indicated severe freezing weather. At such times there was a cessation of business, and the printers became gentlemen of leisure until, by a prodigal use of fuel, a general thaw throughout the office took place."

We have no room for further extracts this month, but as the paper is printed for private circulation only, we shall take another opportunity of giving our readers a further insight into its contents.

CONGRESS OF GERMAN JOURNALISTS.

THE following are the resolutions passed by the Congress of German Journalists held at Frankfort, July, 1870:—

I.—Literary productions that according to the laws of the country are considered objects of intellectual property, and therefore enjoy protection from piracy, retain such privilege whether published in the form of a book or newspaper. This definition includes newspaper romances, novels, treatises, scientific articles, and essays published in periodicals and journals, thus comprising a great part of the materials for feuilletons.

II.—Matter of fact communications, telegrams, leading articles, letters from correspondents, and feuilleton articles (as far as these latter are not objects of intellectual property), may be republished in other newspapers, in the same language or in translation.

III.—Reproduction of literary matter is prohibited and to be considered as piracy, when the original author, or, in the case of anonymous or pseudonymous contributions, the editor or publisher, gives notice that the right of property is reserved. This prohibition may extend to all the articles under one heading, such as telegrams from private sources, but the notice must be printed in each number of the paper. Any contravention of this prohibition gives a claim for compensation, for which a complaint may be brought before a

court of justice. The transgressor can, however, escape the penalty of compensation if he is able to prove that the article in question also appeared at the same time in another newspaper without the reservation of the right of copyright, from which he may have copied the article.

IV.—All articles not prohibited, if copied into another paper, must publish the source whence derived, or at least the initials of the paper from which taken. Articles reproduced from other papers without naming the source whence taken are punishable by fines. (A debate having ensued on the wording of this paragraph, it was ascertained that there was no law in existence to confirm the above wording; in consequence of which it was agreed to word it as follows: "The source from which reproduced articles are derived must be so plainly stated as to give rise to no misunderstandings. The Congress declares the naming the source to be an understood thing, and the omission of it a violation of journalistic decency.")

V.—With regard to the mode of proceeding in cases of disputes relating to alleged piracy or omission of the source of an article reprinted, the Congress expresses a hope that they may be settled at short notice and in a summary manner by the mediation of two or more experienced journalists of good repute; and that the possibility of raising claims for compensation for alleged contravention of the law of copyright, be also settled as quickly as possible, legal proceedings being commenced as soon as the facts of the case are brought to the knowledge of the complainant.

VI.—The Congress of Journalists beseeches the different Governments to take such steps as may be needful to introduce one general law, based on these principles above enunciated, to be enforced in all the states that formerly composed the German Confederation: and further to take care that the German Press enjoy the same protection in foreign countries by means of special treaties as it is placed under at home, and that the said treaties be based upon the principle of reciprocity.

THE SCANDAL OF THE PRESS—LYING NEWS.

(From the *Stationer*.)

CAN nothing be done to stop the swindle that is daily being perpetrated in the public thoroughfares of London by a certain daily paper that has achieved notoriety by its sensation placards and untrue telegrams (?)? We write swindle not in a metaphorical sense, but as a word to which we desire the broadest significance to be given. If a newspaper proprietor or publisher represents through the medium of his posters that he has received certain intelligence which he is prepared to relate in return for a copper coin, he has picked the pocket of every person who has bought his paper, providing, of course, that no foreign telegram has reached him upon the subject indicated. He has in such case obtained money by false pretences, and deserves to be prosecuted. We can make allowances for garbled or incorrect telegrams, but to correct and publish imaginary particulars of battles, and of thousands of lives being lost, is downright wickedness. A boy was lately taken before a London magistrate and punished for bawling out supposititious news which was not contained in the papers he had for sale. We can even pity this young scamp when we see that newspaper proprietors and publishers are permitted to escape scot free, though they do far greater injury. A continued course of inventing false news must eventually come to an end by the discontinuance of the paper in question. But in the meantime, the evil is doing mischief, not the least of which is the undeserved contempt that is being induced for the profession of journalism. It therefore behoves every journalist to use his utmost exertions to denounce this black sheep of the Press, so that the managers thereof may be induced to conduct their paper honestly and respectably.

THE LATE PREVOST-PARADOL.

(From the *New York Herald*.)

MANY conjectures are rife as to the causes of the melancholy suicide of M. Prévost-Paradol. It is supposed that he may have been one more victim to the overwork to which the exigencies of modern journalism expose an intensely active brain. The mental toil of which his elaborate and powerful articles in the *Press*, the *Journal des Débats*, and the *Courrier du Dimanche*, as well as his numerous pamphlets and books were the fruit, must have been prodigious. His wit and sarcasm were no less marvellous

than his erudition and his "large discourse of reason." And all his fine intellectual faculties were employed, not merely in the "still air of delightful studies," in the leisure and seclusion of a scholar's closet, but in rapid, incessant, exhausting work at the editorial desk. Moreover, it is thought that a keen sense of the responsibilities of his new diplomatic position, by conferring which upon him, the Emperor intended, through him, to honour the Press, as well as to attest the sincerity of his own recent adhesion to the theories of parliamentary liberty which M. Prévost-Paradol had always persistently advocated; a modest consciousness of his inexperience in diplomacy, coupled with an eager ambition to fulfil his duties in an exemplary manner; a sensitive nervous organisation stung to the quick by bitter, brutal, and unjust animadversions which his appointment elicited from the Extreme Left and the Extreme Right, from irreconcilables and implacables, from Orleanists, who insinuated that it was the recompense of his alleged desertion of their cause as well as their party; and from old Bonapartists, who were jealous of this promotion of a new comer in their ranks. . . . That, in fine, all these causes co-operated in weakening his body, crazing his brain, and impelling him to suicide. Whatever may have been the cause or the combination of causes that led to this tragical result, we repeat that it has awakened profound and universal regret.

LICK-SPITTLE "LINERS."

(From the *New York Tribune*.)

THERE are half a dozen leaders now in politics, literature, and religion, whose names have become household words through the country, yet who are known by those nearest them to be men of straw. The leverage used to raise such men was simply skilful advertising. It is the reporter of the newspaper, however, not the business clerk, with whom he deals; he pays nothing for his "cards" beyond an invitation to dinner or a delicate attention. Reporters have a peculiar delight in crooking the bended hinges of the knees before this Juggernaut car of the self-made man. The world yields to him. Mysterious whispers foretell the subject of his coming book or picture to the eager public as soon as it is conceived in his brain; the whispers increase; before the advent of the work of genius the general ear is deafened by a mighty chorus trumpeting its praise. Stupid men in inland towns know no way to bring themselves or their business before the public but by a handbill or card paid for across the counter. What do they know of the delicious tit-bit of gossip concerning their wife or daughter that steals into the editorial column; the generous donation of a burial lot to their employers, telegraphed from Maine to California: the anecdote, which leaks out, the present offered by a corporation and refused? And above all, the dinner! There are certain dinners where members of the Press singularly predominate, which inevitably suggest to the shrewd observer a self-made man and unlimited puffing beneath the terrapin and the Veuve Clicquot. We are sure there is a rat in the arras. We remember a banquet given in celebration of a great work accomplished, which was noticed in every city of the Union, at which the real worker sat unnoticed while his clerk carried off all the honour. When a man has once succeeded in bringing the great "I" prominently before the public, he may rest from his labours. Reporters will do the rest, and the world will accept him at their value. No other people will receive a man at his own appraisement so freely as Americans. But the columns of every day's journals show us that the self-advertiser never are content to rest. They fasten their names to every subject that promises to engross the public attention, as boys tie bobs to a kite. When the world held its breath the other day at the words that Charles Dickens was dead, the telegraph made haste to inform us that Mr. John Smith of a neighbouring city "was quite overcome at the sad tidings. Mr. Dickens was a personal friend of Mr. Smith's. Mr. Smith was almost as much overcome as at the news of the death of Mr. Peabody, who was also a personal friend."

There is a grim pleasantry in the persistence with which these little men caper before their audience at which we cannot but laugh. Certain books detailing personal quarrels, many of our

poems and novels, are only long advertisements of some irrepressible "I"—looking-glasses before which some man or woman is weeping or making grimaces in hopes of being watched. Certain papers hold their place before the public solely by the virulence with which the editor drags his own petty and gangrened quarrels before the eyes of decent men and women. The success of such books or journals has always been short-lived. In the long run, the public prefers good, healthy food to the cannibal meal of Monsieur the Editor, cooked in a different style every day. In the long run, too, those factitious reputations come to a sudden end. Death pricks a man's character and work with a sharp lance, and the world, on its side, puts him to a trial which is always just. If it is any consolation to modest men, they may assure themselves that the egotist invariably goes snubbed to Hades.

THE BLESSINGS OF A PENNY PRESS.

(From the *Anglo American Times*.)

IN some of the great cities of the United States the uproar in the early morning by fire-runners, by hawkers, and bellowers in general, is loudly complained of, though those who desire to be reconciled to their towns should occupy the bedroom of a first floor in London on a fine Sunday morning. Newspaper boys are the chief nuisance—*Lloyd's News*, the "Weekly Times," the *Sunday* "or any other Times," as the facetious lad screams, crowding into the period from 6 to 8 o'clock, all the annoyances which the *Echo* boys manage to thrust on the London wayfarers during the six preceding days. The cheap newspaper is an admirable institution, fostering baby-farming and other modern improvements, if they be modern. That *Lloyd's Weekly* has extended the utility of such operations has been proved, and by full and admirable reports of such cases as the Boulton, has done much for morality, is undeniable. As those who are roused at six o'clock, to hear that there is a bundle of *Lloyd's Weekly* under their window on sale at a penny, have had an opportunity of learning the nature of the treat provided, they hail the shrill scream, however startling, with ecstatic delight. Contents of *Lloyd's Weekly*—Trial of a Burglar and Murderer—Shocking Suicide of a Girl and her Betrayal—A Woman Murders her Five Children—Brutal Treatment of a Pauper—An M.P. garrotted in the Seven Dials—Thrilling Death of a Drunkard.—The howl which awakens the peaceful slumber on Sunday morning carries to his mind a catalogue of all the villainies of the week, and thus appropriately prepares his mind for a holy rest on the Sabbath. Why cannot those who delight in such literature be allowed to call for it or to have it taken to their houses, and leave the other citizens of London, who do not want it, to complete the sleep they need.

POST OFFICE REGISTRATION OF NEWSPAPERS.

THE following circular has just been issued by the Post Office authorities:

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
August, 1870

SIR,

By the notification issued in June last, you were informed that the registration of the publication named on the back of this circular would continue in force until the 30th proximo.

I have now to acquaint you that, under the powers given to the Postmaster-General by the "Post Office Act, 1870," which has just been passed, the regulations relating to the registration of publications for transmission abroad as newspapers have been revised; and that, in future, newspapers to be entitled to be registered for transmission abroad at the newspaper rates, will be subject to the following conditions—They must be publications consisting wholly or in great part of political or other news or of articles relating thereto, or to other current topics, with or without advertisements: the full title and date of publication must be printed at the top of the first page, and the whole or part of the title and the date of publication printed at the top of every subsequent page.

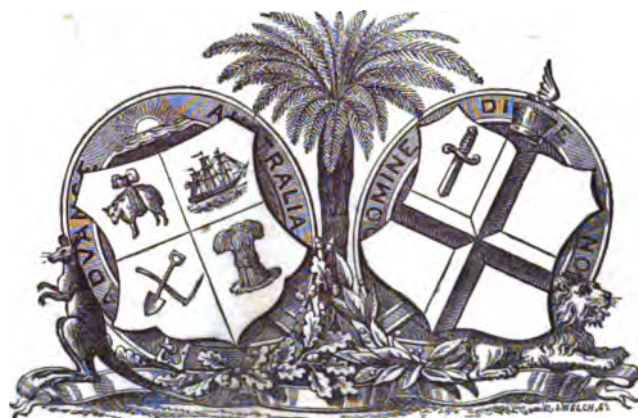
The definition of a supplement is—A publication consisting wholly or in great part of matter like that of a newspaper; or of advertisements, printed on a sheet or sheets, or a piece or pieces of paper, un-

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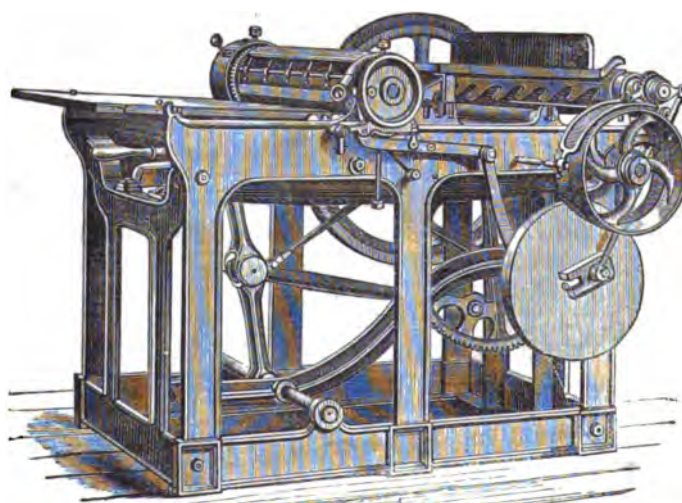
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HUGHES and KIMBER, West Harding Street, Fetter Lane, E.C.

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THE NEWSPAPER PRESS

AN ORGAN OF INTERCOMMUNICATION BETWEEN

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REPORTERS,
CORRESPONDENTS,

PAPER MAKERS,
STATIONERS,
TYPE FOUNDERS,
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COMPOSITORS,

READERS,
NEWSVENDORS,
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PUBLISHERS, AND
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No. 46.—VOL. IV.

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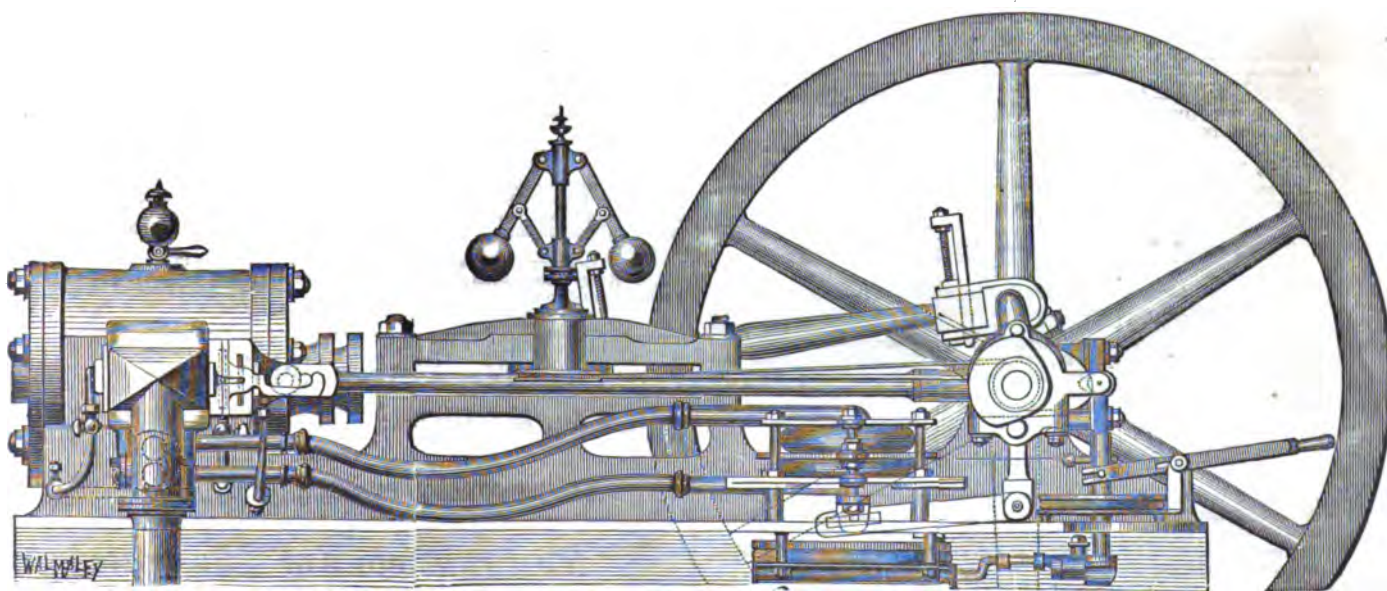
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The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, August 26.

ON the first of this month a deputation of journalists, representing twenty-eight organs of the Press in this city, waited on M. Emile Ollivier (who was then still Prime Minister), to represent to him the inconvenience both to the public and themselves from the prohibition to give any account of the operations of the army at the seat of war, and praying him to reconsider the subject and retract the prohibition. The deputation, which consisted of representatives of the *Journal des Débats*, the *Temps*, the *Siècle*, the *Figaro*, the *Paris Journal*, the *Gaulois*, the *Constitutionnel*, the *Moniteur*, the *France*, the *Patrie*, the *Peuple Français*, and the *Centre gauche*, was received by M. Ollivier with his usual *bonhomie* in the presence of the Minister of the Interior and the head of the department for the affairs of the Press. He told them that the object of the prohibition was simply to prevent the enemy from obtaining information through the medium of the French Press; they would no doubt fully appreciate his motive, and spare him the necessity of taking serious measures such as he had felt obliged to take against the *National* for transgressing the prohibition, which, he went on to explain, had only reference to intended movements of the army and future events, whilst they were free to communicate facts that had occurred.

Paris being now in a state of siege and under martial law, the military authorities are not to be trifled with on the part of the Press, and if they fall under the displeasure of the Minister for War, are promptly punished by being suppressed. This has happened to the *Rappel*, the *Réveil*, the *Cloche*, and the *Centre gauche*.

Henri Rochefort, whose period of six months' imprisonment expired on the 18th inst., has not been set at liberty, being detained for four months more on an old conviction passed upon him before he became a member of the Legislative Assembly, for personal chastisement inflicted by him on a printer who had published a libel on him.*

On the night of the 1st inst., the printing establishment and offices of the *Courrier de Rouen* were totally destroyed by fire, but it is understood that the proprietor is fully insured.

It is believed that Lord Lyons has made some serious representations to the Duke of Grammont on the liberties which the official journal takes with our debates in Parliament, &c., which are distorted to suit the situation in the most glaring manner.

The report of the committee on the Newspaper Stamp Bill has been presented, and the Government have accepted M. Dréolle's proposal to abolish the stamp-tax, allowing the Government time to seek a financial compensation for such abolition. The bill in its entirety was adopted by 165 against 9 votes.

The newspaper stamp which the French Government affixes to every copy has for one of its results the effect of clearly showing the circulation of each journal. A return, recently published in *Le Figaro*, for the month of June, exhibits that journal as first upon the list with a daily average of 58,032. After the organ of the *demi-monde*, and of what its editor calls "*les surprises*," which most English would denominate false news and forgeries, comes Republicanism in the shape of the *Rappel*, which has a daily circulation of 36,167; then *Le Siècle* with 33,833; and the *Gaulois* with 30,000. The Imperial *Peuple Français* has only 17,000; the Ministerial *Liberté* but 13,500; the Liberal *Temps* no more than 11,833; the omnivorous *Débats* only 8,333; the inspired *Constitutionnel* has a small circulation of 6,667; while the Ultramontane *Monde* stands at no higher figure than 2,667.

* Toulon, Dr. Robert, founder and editor of the *Strenge Nation*, at Rodann, near Vienna.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, August 26.

Whilst most trades and professions are languishing under the pressure created by the gigantic war that is now raging between Germany and France, and some even brought to a dead stand

still—it cannot be denied that it has given a very great impetus to the newspaper trade in this country, and that the Press generally is in a flourishing condition. Indeed it could hardly be otherwise, when thirty-eight millions of intelligent and mostly educated persons of both sexes have at least one near relative, and many friends, now struggling to revenge the insult offered to their Fatherland, in which every man during the best years of his life is bound to serve in the army. The family at home are of course painfully anxious for the safety of their absent members, and cheerfully subscribe to and take in a paper of some sort—according to their lights—and follow with almost breathless emotion the different phases of the war. It follows as a matter of course that those papers containing the newest and fullest information enjoy the greatest circulation, and this imposes on them the necessity of sending special correspondents to the seat of war to chronicle events as they occur, and communicate their impressions of what they see and hear. The duties of a special correspondent in the field are not only onerous, but, to do his duty impartially to his employers and the public and with credit to himself, requires the services of a man of much general information, some knowledge of war in its different phases, great tact and judgment in not communicating anything that may be useful to the enemy, and a light and easy style of expressing himself in fluent and popular language. These different requirements are very difficult to combine in one individual, but I am bound to confess that the problem has been satisfactorily solved in most cases by the gentlemen connected with the higher ranks of the German Press; as a class they stick to business and confine themselves to the relation of the real events of the war, eschewing all personal adventures, which take up such a lamentable deal of space in the columns of some of your English contemporaries, who appear to think the public must take the deepest interest in the manner their special correspondents are lodged, and what they have for supper, when obliged to put up with scanty accommodation in a little village in the rear of the line of operations.

The King of Prussia, a man of enlightened and liberal views, fully appreciates the value of the Fourth Estate, and has required the services of a special correspondent at his headquarters to chronicle the events of the war as they occur in succession, and give a faithful and authentic account of whatever takes place for the information of the public at Berlin, and thence over all Germany. In obedience to this requisition a meeting of the principal journalists was held at Berlin to elect one of their number whom to recommend for the honourable distinction, and the nomination fell unanimously on Herr Ludwig Pietsch, one of the editors of the *Vossische Zeitung* of that city, who immediately proceeded to the King's headquarters, and is almost the only civilian at present with the army.

It is considered certain at Berlin that the Minister of the Interior intends to introduce a new Press law in the next session of the Reichstag or German Parliament, provided that by that time peace should be happily restored; and that he has commissioned the Government Councillor Golts to make the draft of the bill. If this statement be confirmed I fear the Press will not have to congratulate themselves on gaining many facilities, as that gentleman, who was at one time State Procurator, and is now appointed to watch over the newspapers and their contents, fulfils his duties with anything but toleration and leniency, and is generally regarded with distrust and fear by the Berlin editors. But there is another element to be taken into consideration, and that is the question of finance. Ministers have already agreed to the principle of abolishing the newspaper stamp duty in Prussia, and should there be any loss to the revenue to make up the deficiency by imposing a moderate duty on advertisements. But the present state of warfare has upset or at least suspended all financial combinations, and it is impossible to foresee with any degree of certainty what will happen in the next few months.

In the meantime the little republic of Bremen, one of the very smallest states of the North-German Confederation, has just published and promulgated its new Press law, which is by far the most liberal one hitherto brought to light. By its provisions the deposit of caution-money, the granting and withdrawal of concessions, the obligation to send a copy of each impression to the

authorities, and the other onerous regulations tending to shackle the Press, are all abolished and done away with. There is only one objection to be made to it, and that is, that the advertisement duty has been retained, though from purely financial considerations.

A new class of journalism has sprung up in Germany during the last month, and it may be denominated "War Literature." In every city of any magnitude there is now a *Kriegs Zeitung* of some description; they are mostly illustrated, and contain exclusively more or less ample details of the engagements that have taken place between the belligerents, and other intelligence from the seat of war. In like manner the cartographers have been very active of late, and the shop windows swarm with maps of different sizes and merit, which, if not particularly correct or well executed, have at all events done some good in promoting the study of geography.

On the other hand, as we are now under martial law the military authorities take upon themselves to suppress or suspend for a time all newspapers containing anything unpatriotic or displeasing, and make quick work of it too. This fate has befallen the *Sächsische Zeitung*, the *Kieler Zeitung*, the Berlin *Volks Zeitung*, and several others.

AUSTRIA.

The compositors at Prague have given written notice to the proprietors of newspapers in that city that they adhere firmly to their resolution to abolish Sunday work after the 15th inst., in consequence of which the Monday impression of the *Narodny Listy*, the *Pokrok*, and the *Tagesboten aus Böhmen* have been unavoidably discontinued.

At the Royal Hungarian University printing office at Pesth a paper is now published in the German language, but in Hebrew characters. It is called the *Jüdische Pesther Zeitung*, and appears twice a week.

DENMARK.

At the beginning of August, when it was popularly believed that as soon as the French fleet appeared in the Baltic the Danish Government would renounce their neutrality and openly espouse the cause of France, a swarm of special correspondents for the Paris Press arrived at Copenhagen, all prepared to give the most sensational accounts of the brilliant victories to be achieved by the French naval forces over their despised enemies. Among them was the Marquis de St. Lieux as representative of *La France*, M. Vilbort for the *Sidole*, and M. Delaunay for *La Liberté*. As soon as the fleet arrived, and it was ascertained that its object was simply to blockade the German Ports, and when it transpired at the same time that Denmark was determined loyally to maintain her neutrality, the gentlemen of the French Press appeared much disappointed and crestfallen, and disappeared one by one.

RUSSIA.

The editor of the Russian satirical weekly called the *Ishra*, published at St. Petersburg, received on the 10th of August an order from the Government to provide a successor within a fortnight, as his sarcasms were no longer to be borne. As he was unable to do so on so short a notice the paper has been discontinued. How this summary course of proceeding is reconcilable with the boasted liberty of the Press in Russia is difficult to understand.

The King of Prussia has conferred on the titular collegial councillor, Dr. Friedrich Meyer, chief editor of the *St. Petersburger Deutsche Zeitung*, the insignia of Knight of the Third Class of the Royal Order of the Prussian Crown.

The "Official Journal of the Ministry of Public Instruction," published at St. Petersburg, gives an account of the number of foreign newspapers subscribed for through the Russian post-office. The total number of such subscriptions in 1868 was 6,846; of which 3,473 were for German; 2,243 for French; and 982 English. The *Daily News* had 4 subscribers; *Daily Telegraph*, 1; *Economist*, 34; *Engineer*, 47; *Illustrated London News*, 241; *The Mail*, 58; *Pall Mall Gazette*, 8; *The Times*, 65;

and *Penny*, 136. Of course, these figures are independent of subscriptions effected in the countries where the journals are published.

ITALY.

A little newspaper, named *Il Fanfulla*, has recently made its appearance in Florence, where it has become at once popular. It imitates the Parisian *Figaro*.

ROME.

The Frenchmen in the Pontifical army have placarded a notice at the office of the *Osservatore Romano* announcing their intention to give that journal a severe lesson if it continues to speak of the war in a Prussian partisan spirit.

SPAIN.

The partisans of the Duke de Montpensier are again hopeful of carrying their candidate, notwithstanding the many discouragements they have met with. A journal entitled *Clamor de Espana* has just been started in Madrid to advocate the Duke's interests.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, August 14.

Why should this "infernal war" which has been hatched up in Europe stop your correspondence from New York? That is a question which will be asked of you by your readers. I do not triumph over the dreadful carnage now going on, but I remember well how calmly Europe looked upon something of the same kind occurring *here*. I was then attached to an army—never mind whether North or South: that is my own secret and does not concern your readers—but I know how war disconcerts correspondence arrangements, and when I was asked by your correspondent "SOL"—the second of that signature, I believe—to keep you posted with the Press news of the States, while he did a little war reporting in Europe, I took charge of "the portfolio," without knowing exactly what I had to do. You must therefore excuse me if, having had no opportunity of collecting special "notes" for you this month, I make amends by sending you a few pounds' weight of newspapers from which you may, I dare say, cull a column or two of news about the Press of the States. I will begin from this day to "take notes," and clip paragraphs, so as to afford you a better "letter" for your next publication.

Alas, poor "SOL"! will he ever come back to us from your ensanguined European plains "sound of wind and limb?" Why did he sign himself "SOL" in your columns? He was never connected with the *Sun*, and merely, I suppose, adopted the signature of his predecessor, *who was*. I am not of that party, and will not be "SOL" the third. But I will carry out his wishes as far as I can, and hope that when he again bursts forth upon us in his full radiance, he will have no fault to find with me. I fear there is no chance of my blinding his and your readers with my effulgence, but I will do my best to supply his place.

The Associated Press has made arrangements with your Reuter's Telegraph Company, the Paris, Havre, Bullier and Company's Agency, and the Berlin Continental Telegraph Company, for the exclusive supply of news collected by those great media, for the use of its customers throughout the United States.

If you care about the movements of our editorial reunions—the like of which I believe you have not in England—I may mention that the Massachusetts Editors and Publishers' Association, assembled at Boston on the 13th and 14th of June, under the presidency of the Hon. Stephen N. Stookwell, of the *Boston Journal*, adopted a proposal for collecting materials for a history of journalism in Massachusetts, and invited every proprietor to send in, for that purpose, a history of his paper. A sub-committee made a preliminary report, advising a closer adherence to "scale" advertising rates, and a reduction of the commission allowed to agents. A committee was also named for considering the best means for procuring the more general publication of acts of congress in the papers of the various states. The West Virginia Press Association has also held its meeting at Martinsburg, with no results likely to be of interest to English readers. Its next

meeting is to be at Fairmont, on the first Thursday in May next. The Hudson River Editorial Association met at Hudson on the 9th ult., but transacted no business that your readers would care to hear of.

A paragraph on which I place little reliance is going the round of the papers, professing to assess the value of the leading newspaper property of New York. This authority makes the *New York Herald* worth 3,000,000 dols., the *Tribune* 1,250,000 dols., the *Times* 1,000,000 dols., the *Journal of Commerce* 800,000 dols., the *Evening Post* 700,000 dols., the *World* 400,000 dols., and the *Sun* and the *Express* both 300,000 dols. You will take the statement for what it is worth. I am in a position to know that in one of the cases cited it is entirely at fault.

The harlot, Rumour, also has been going about proclaiming that "Calvin W. Starbuck, proprietor of the *Cincinnati Times*, is the wealthiest newspaper proprietor in the Union. His fortune is nearly one million, and he made it all out of his journal." Who is it that possesses this power of gauging men's pockets and peering into their bank books? And who cares to know how many dollars predominate on the right side? Is it possible that these details are supplied from head quarters? Your English papers seem to catch greedily at such trivialities, and are wrong twice to right once. I have seen, within a few years, Childs, Gordon Bennett, Greeley, Raymond, and, I think, Bonner, all described in the London Press as "the richest newspaper proprietor in the United States." I am not quite sure that I have not read the name of George Francis Train as the wealthiest, but that may have been in an Irish paper. It is whispered—but whispered in type—that Henry Raymond, the "successor to his father" on the *New York Times*, is likely to make Miss Ellen Hutchinson, a "reportress of female conventions," Mrs. Henry Raymond—but of course I do not descend to such small items, lower than repeating them. I can't help reading—and sometimes I read aloud.

A very pretty tinted paper has lately come out in this city called *Sundry Items*. I think we have paid too little regard to the relief of our readers' eyes—considering that we average smaller type and closer lines than your papers—and I should like to see tinted paper of a faint violet here—not the atrocious brownish yellow of your *Echo*—encouraged.

The signature which I shall adopt while in occupation of your American column is intended as a recognition of the services which "Our Mutual Friend"—the great departed, whom two nations still are mourning—rendered to the reformation of American journalism. It is a mistake to suppose that we took his "American Notes" or "Martin Chuzzlewit" in bad part—they "riled" us—but they blistered us, and the treatment, sore as it was at the time, has done us good—like a mustard plaster.

JEFFERSON BRICK.

THE PRESS IN AMERICA.—In reporting the inquest on the body of Mr. Nathan, New York merchant, whose murder has caused an extraordinary sensation in that city, the *New York Times* says no better proof of the importance attached to the freedom of the Press in the States could be adduced:—"The hour of two o'clock arrived, the coroner proposed an adjournment, being assured by the reporters, he said, that the testimony already taken would be all that could possibly be written out and printed on the morrow."

The following are the latest additions to the American Press:—Shenandoah *Herald*, Shenandoah City, Pa. (weekly); eight pages, quarto; *Daily Gazette*, Terre Haute, Ind.; *Free Press*, Strasburg, Lancaster County, Pa. (weekly); *Weekly Press*, Frankfort, Benzil County, Mich., neutral; *Grand Army Journal*, Washington, D. C. (weekly), devoted to the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic; *Courier*, Charleston, W. Va. (weekly), independent; *Plain Words*, Bellefonte, Pa. (weekly), Republican, W. H. H. Brainerd, editor; *Packard's College Monthly*, New York; *Daily Star*, Cape May City, N. J.; *Brazos Eagle*, Bryan, Texas (tri-weekly), R. R. Gilbert, editor.

CANADA.

A new daily paper is being published in Montreal, called the *Independent*, devoted to the cause of Canadian annexation to the United States.

CHINA.

A new English journal has been started at Shanghai, under the name of the *Cycle*. It is said to represent the Anti-progressionist party.

INDIA.

The *Bombay Gazette* says that a printer's devil has, in one of the Indian papers, eclipsed his fellows by printing "the Survey Commission" as "the Scurvy Commission."

BURMAH.

On the 17th of June, the proprietors of the *Rangoon Gazette* started a new vernacular paper, "as they believe that the *Burmah Herald* has forfeited all claims it may have had upon public confidence by the official or semi-official position which it has taken up as the organ of His Majesty the King of Burmah." The idea is a good one, as the new paper will to a great extent cancel any evil which His Majesty may purpose to do in his official journal.

TASMANIA.

The *Tasmanian Independent* is a new paper published at Hobart Town, in quarto size. It is well edited and printed, and advocates religion and temperance. The price is threepence; and the printer Mr. James Burnet, who may be congratulated on issuing the paper in as good a style as it could be done even here in London.

NEW ZEALAND.

A comic paper entitled the *Tomahawk* has been lately started at Auckland.

Law Intelligence.

MIDLAND CIRCUIT.—LEEDS, AUGUST 11.

THE QUEEN V. LENG.—THE SHEFFIELD NEWSPAPER LIBEL ON THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF SEFTON.

SIR J. KARSLAKE, Q.C., Mr. Field, Q.C., and Mr. Willis appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. D. Seymour, Q.C., Mr. Maule, Q.C., and Mr. Kemplay for the defendant, Mr. Christopher Leng, editor and proprietor of the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*.

The Earl of Sefton occupied a seat on the bench. A special jury were sworn to hear the case, the particulars of which have already appeared in the *NEWSPAPER PRESS*.

After the evidence, Sir J. Karslake replied upon the whole case, saying that he should not make any remarks pressing with undue severity upon the defendant. The act of 6th and 7th Vic., he contended, did not apply to this case, and as to the moral aspect of the case it was very strong, inasmuch as the circulation of the offensive publication went on for days without anything being done to impede it, or to avert the distress which Lord and Lady Sefton were suffering in consequence of that shameful libel. The learned counsel contended that there had been no proper effort to relieve Lord and Lady Sefton from the stigma which this publication imposed upon them. This libel appeared very shortly after the Mordaunt case, and certainly the Prince of Wales had never been more foully or cruelly slandered than he was by the announcement which appeared in the defendant's columns. Notwithstanding that, not a word of regret had escaped the lips of the defendant's counsel so far as the Prince of Wales was concerned.

The Lord Chief Baron, in summing up, said this was a false and scandalous libel no doubt, and he should ask the jury whether there had been any want of due care and caution by the defendant in giving it publicity. It was to be supposed that early next morning the obnoxious paragraph would attract his attention, and did the defendant then give peremptory orders not to sell another paper, to pull down all the posters, and forthwith by every means in his power to stop the further progress of this scandal? So far as the evidence went there was nothing to show that steps had been taken to stop even at that moment the circulation of any papers of the 4th of April which might yet remain in the defendant's hands. His lordship, in conclusion, said Lord Sefton had taken a proper course in proceeding by criminal information.

The jury almost immediately returned a verdict for the crown. Sentence was deferred to next term.

NORTH WALES CIRCUIT.—CHESTER, AUGUST 15.

(Before Lord Chief Justice COCKBURN.)

THE ALLEGED POLITICAL EVICTIONS IN DENBIGHSHIRE.

In this case, John Williams, architect and land agent, Liangollen, was the plaintiff, and Thomas Gee, proprietor of the *Banner* newspaper, printed at Denbigh, was the defendant, the action being brought to recover damages for a libel, printed and published by the defendant on the plaintiff.

Mr. Giffard, in opening the case, said the circumstances out of which this transaction arose were these:—There was an election in Denbighshire in the year 1868, and the candidates were—a most distinguished member of the Chancery bar, Mr. G. C. Morgan, Sir W. Wynn, and Colonel Biddulph. After the election had taken place—a considerable time after—in the newspaper published by the defendant appeared a letter, and it was in respect of the libellous imputations upon the plaintiff in that letter that this action was brought. Plaintiff was in this position—agent to a landlord on the Liberal side, while he himself was upon the Conservative side. The letter charged the plaintiff with evicting a tenant who voted contrary to his wishes.

Defendant said the words of the alleged libel were true in substance and in fact. Defendant alleged that all the facts were true, but that those facts were not intended to impute to the plaintiff that he had endeavoured to use restraint or threatened damage or loss upon Evan Parry. The evidence was somewhat conflicting as to the actual cause of notice being served upon the tenant Parry.

His lordship summed up. It was alleged that Mr. Williams had attempted to coerce Parry's vote, and having failed in that had taken advantage of his position as agent and served a notice to quit upon Parry. He thought the jury would agree with him that that was a serious imputation, and if they thought it was wrongfully insinuated they would please to mark their sense of it by the damages they gave. On the other hand, if Mr. Williams had behaved harshly to this man they would consider how far that sustained the plea which the defendant set up.

The jury left the box to consider their verdict, and after a few minutes' deliberation returned into court with a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages 50*l*.

HOME CIRCUIT.—GUILDFORD, AUGUST 16.

(Before Lord Chief Justice BOVILL and a Special Jury.)

WRIGHT V. JACKSON AND ANOTHER.

This was an action of libel.

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine and Mr. Murphy were for the plaintiff; Mr. Hawkins, Q.C., and Mr. Morgan Howard appeared for the defendant Jackson; and Mr. Horace Lloyd, Q.C., and Mr. Day appeared for the other defendant, Dowling.

The plaintiff in this action was an engineer, and the defendants were the printer and proprietor of a publication called the *Inventors' Journal*. The libel complained of was contained in an article which in effect imputed to the defendant, in the position he occupied of chief engineer to the Quebrada Mining Company, that he was incompetent and unfit to perform the duties of his office. It also charged the plaintiff with being a promoter of questionable companies.

The learned counsel for the defendants intimated that it was not their intention to call witnesses.

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine, upon this, said that the only object the plaintiff had in view was to vindicate his character from the injurious aspersions that had been cast upon it, and now that the plaintiff had been examined he was willing to accept of an apology, with nominal damages, if the charges were withdrawn that had been made against him.

The learned counsel for the defendants upon this conferred together, and Mr. Hawkins said that on the part of his client the proposition would be acceded to, and he was ready to withdraw all imputations upon the honour and character of the plaintiff.

A similar course was taken with regard to the other defendant, and a nominal verdict for forty shillings was then taken, upon the understanding that the defendants would pay all the costs of the action.

BANKRUPTCY COURT.—AUGUST 11.

(Before Mr. Registrar SPRING RICE.)

BANKRUPTCY OF MR. GRENVILLE MURRAY.

Adjudication of bankruptcy was made against Eustace Clare Grenville Murray, described as of 65, Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, newspaper proprietor.

The petitioning creditor under the bankruptcy is Mr. John Hughes, publisher, of Brixton, whose debt of 100*l*. odd arises in connection with the *Queen's Messenger*.

The case has been before the court on more than one occasion, and this was an adjourned sitting for the hearing of the petition, which up to this stage had been resisted on the part of the bankrupt. A letter was now produced from Messrs. Sharn and Boscoe, solicitors, Bedford-row, who had acted on behalf of the debtor, stating that no further opposition would be offered to the adjudication, which was made accordingly. The sitting for choice of trustees and inspectors is appointed for the 15th of September, when the bankrupt will be required to surrender and produce a statement of his affairs.

TESTIMONIAL TO DR. SEBASTIAN EVANS.—Dr. Evans's late colleagues on the staff of the *Birmingham Daily Gazette* presented him with a very handsome testimonial on the 6th ult., on the occasion of his resignation of the post of editor of that paper. Nearly a hundred persons connected with every department took part in the testimonial. The presentation took place at Lovegrove's Royal Hotel. Mr. Fred. Williams occupied the chair, and Mr. Henry Hadley the vice-chair, at the dinner. The testimonial consisted of a gold watch and chain, and a handsome ring for Mrs. Evans. To these gifts was added an address expressive of the esteem and good-will of the subscribers and of their sense of the many high personal and professional qualities of Dr. Evans. In acknowledgment of the toast of the evening, Dr. Evans made an excellent speech, and the proceedings of the evening were altogether of a very gratifying character.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. THOMAS CASSIDY.

WE regret to have to announce the death, at his residence, Limerick, of Mr. Thomas J. Cassidy, for upwards of 45 years a prominent member of the Irish Press, metropolitan and provincial. Deceased, who was in his 70th year at the time of his death, was well known and esteemed.—We take the following from the obituary in the *Cork Herald*:—"The deceased gentleman had been for years connected with this journal as local correspondent in Limerick. He served our interests faithfully and zealously, and to our readers who have been familiar with his communications it is unnecessary to dilate on the vigour and raciness of his style. From an early period of his life Mr. Cassidy was connected with the Irish Press, and was for many years in the employment and under the guidance of such men as Frederick William Conway, of the *Evening Post*. Later he filled the lucrative and responsible position of special reporter to the Excise Department. He also enjoyed an extensive reputation as the reporter of some of the religious controversies in which the celebrated Father Maguire combated the polemics of the no less celebrated Mr. Pope and the Rev. Mr. Gregg. Mr. Cassidy, who was about 70 years old when he died, was remarkable for the lively humour displayed in his writings, under which there lay a playful sarcasm thoroughly racy of the soil, and a great deal of his correspondence in this journal displayed that national peculiarity. He was, besides, an excellent reporter."

MR. EDWARD CAMPBELL.

In an early No. of the NEWSPAPER PRESS we reported the death of Dr. Campbell, divine and journalist; we now have to record that of his last surviving son, Mr. Edward Selby Campbell, a reporter on the Parliamentary staff of the *Morning Advertiser*, which took place at his residence, Albion Cottage, Camberwell, on the 17th ult. He was the second of four sons of the late Rev. John Campbell, D.D., the eminent Nonconformist divine and journalist. He was a member of the Middle Temple, and a young man of great natural abilities and general acquirements. Although out off at the early age of 32, he was the last surviving son of the family, two of his brothers having perished by drowning, and a third having preceded him to the grave in his 23rd year.

MR. GEORGE HODDER.

The accident to Mr. Hodder, which was reported in the July No. of the NEWSPAPER PRESS, terminated fatally after much suffering. He died at a little before four o'clock on the afternoon of the 31st July, at the Richmond Infirmary, whither he had been removed on the night of the accident in Richmond-park, which occurred on the 28th May last, he having thus survived an injury, which from the first seemed likely to result in a fatal termination, for nine weeks. For the first fortnight Mr. Hodder appeared to be totally unconscious, but owing to the constant and unwearied attention of Mr. Bateman, of Richmond, and the careful nursing of Mrs. Horton, matron of the infirmary, he gradually seemed to improve and some dangerous symptoms abated. He also recovered, at intervals, his consciousness; but subsequently symptoms of a disease of the lungs, from which he had formerly suffered, showed themselves, and this fresh attack of his old complaint proved too severe for the endurance of his now prostrated physique, which his illness made it impossible to supply with the needed nutriment. His only daughter, who had constantly visited her father, was present at his death, as were also several of his most intimate friends.

In addition to his connexion with the *Morning Post* and other journals, Mr. Hodder recently published an amusing volume of reminiscences of his Press and literary contemporaries and friends.

THE *Pool's Advertiser and Shipping Gazette*, and the *Bournemouth Advertiser*, are announced to appear by Mr. Charles Woodford, of Poole.

Home Subjects.

"BLANKET."—The success of the Dublin comic journal *Zinnion* seem to have encouraged others into the field: a new venture, *The Knight Errant*, has come out, dealing with local events and illustrating them with a cartoon in colour, and initial letters, the latter being quaintly designed woodcuts. A third is announced by a Dublin publisher, to be called *Blarney*, "a weekly periodical of satire, sociology, literature and art."

THE plan of tackling applicants at the *Times* office is this. Every competitor seeking a situation upon that journal is tried upon his own merits, whatever influence he may possess in any other way. Sufficient letter, and some rather intricate M.A., to produce a galley, is given out to the aspirant, and his distribution and composition is timed. His proof is then read over by the reader, and handed in to the manager, who forms his own opinion upon the nature and style of the work thus produced. We hear of some remarkable tests being performed in this way occasionally.—*Press News*.

THE FANTAL REVOLUTION.—The proprietors of the *Times* hope to largely increase its sale when the Marquis of Hartington's very handsome present to that journal falls in. They mean to supply country subscribers direct, instead of through the newsgut, as at present, and to that end are having folding-machines erected. This is rather a serious matter for the newsgutmen, and especially so to Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P. for Westminster, who takes 25,000 copies every morning.—*Huller*.

DAILY "EXHIBITION" PAPER.—A very creditable publication comes out daily at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, and will continue to come out every morning as long as the Exhibition remains open. It is called the *Workmen's International Exhibition Chronicle*, and contains a daily record of events connected with the Exhibition, copious gleanings from general literature, and a goodly show of advertisements, at the price of a penny.

"THE LONDON WORLD" is the title of a new penny weekly semi-newspaper just started, combining news and tales. Having been taken in by the announcement of the *Day's Doing*, we have examined this new comer carefully, and must confess that there is nothing of an objectionable character in it—on the contrary, the tone seems healthy, the original articles carefully written, and the selection of extracts judicious. It may be useful in superseding the ribald so-called newspapers which have lately sprung up.

WAR PAPERS.—The declaration of war between France and Prussia had scarcely been made public, when three penny illustrated weekly papers appeared almost simultaneously in London, the *War News*, *War Journal*, and *War Gazette*.

PENNY JOURNALISM.—The first article in the first number of the new quarterly "Rectangular Review," was entitled "Penny Paperism," in which the writer expresses the opinion that the cheap Press has been productive of much mischief.

"THE PRENTON EVENING GUARDIAN."—We have received the first number of a new two page halfpenny journal with the above title. It is dated July 25th, and contains a good selection of news.

M. THIELAND, better known as "Azamat-Batuk," the war correspondent of the *Pull Mall Gazette*, has been expelled from France as being the reporter of a journal "in the pay of Prussia."

THE first number of a new art journal will appear on the 1st of September. It is called *The School of Design*, and among its contributors are numbered Sir Digby Wyatt and Mr. Redgrave.

CAPTAIN DASHWOOD, who has recently sold out of the 91st (Argyllshire) Highlanders, has left England for Mayence, to be special correspondent at the seat of war, on the Prussian side, to a daily paper.

AMONG THE ENGLISH CORRESPONDENTS who were arrested at Metz were Mr. Henry Mayhew of the *Globe*, Mr. Simpson, the artist, a Mr. Cameron, and a correspondent of a Belfast newspaper.

MR. N. A. WOODS, who was in the Crimea for the *Morning Herald*, and has been special correspondent for the *Times* on several recent notable occasions, is the war correspondent of the *Scotsman*.

MR. MALL writes from the seat of war, "That energetic journal, the *Gaulois*, is said to maintain six-and-twenty correspondents in the field, thus beating the *New York Herald* by one and a-half. The half correspondent, I should explain, is a mule, on which one of the gentlemen of the Press is mounted."

THE *Naturday Review* describes *Reynold's* and *Lloyd's* newspapers as "the buzz-flies of dirt, who stink and sting."

ANOTHER NEW "SATIRICAL" PAPER is talked of—to be called the *Grumbler*, with political, social, and satirical cartoons by an eminent artist. The price is to be one penny.

THE "CLUNKENWELL NEWS" gives us some interesting statistics relative to advertising. On Friday, April 30, the number of advertisements in the London daily papers were as follows:—*Clerken-*

well News, 1,451; *The Times*, 1,786; *Telegraph*, 1,684; *Daily News*, 652; *Standard*, 645; *Advertiser*, 548.

"MRS. BROWN'S BUDGET" is the title of a new business weekly penny publication started on the 1st ult., and edited by "Arthur Sketchley."

NEWSPAPER SPECULATION.—Perhaps more money is lost in old countries in efforts to establish newspapers than in any other branch of business wherein so few prizes are obtainable. The crops of journals which spring up like mushrooms in London, and disappear even more suddenly, testify to the loss, for each represents a considerable outlay, while the journals successfully established within a decade, can be counted on the fingers of one hand.—*Anglo-American Times*.

THE WAR MAPS given by our great "dailies" lead to no flattering conclusion as to the progress made in that particular branch of art in the course of more than half a century. Indeed those of the *Times* and *Daily News* are nowise superior to the rough "plans of the seat of war" which were given in the *Times* and *Bell's Weekly Messenger* from 1809 to 1814, which are now before us, as we write this paragraph.

PRIME TESTIMONIAL.—Mr. John Addison, who has been connected with the *Brierly Hill Advertiser* for ten years, has received a well earned compliment. On his leaving that paper for a Birmingham one, a public meeting was held to present him with a gold watch and chain, accompanied by a purse containing 50*l*. The subscription list was headed by the Earl of Dudley, and amongst the subscribers were the M.P.'s for Dudley and Kidderminster, the county representatives of Stafford and Worcester, the county magistrates and gentry. Mr. Addison had previously been presented at Stourbridge with ten volumes of Chambers's "Cyclopaedia," valued at 7*l*, and a cheque for 15*l*. 15*s*. by his Stourbridge friends.

"IT'S AN ILL WIND," &c.—Our Newcastle contemporary published the following statement lately. The great interest taken by the public of this district in the progress of the war, may be estimated by the fact that we published yesterday 40,000 copies of the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*.

THE "TOMAHAWK" has come to grief with the fallen fortunes of its last owner, Sir William Russell. Its editor, Mr. Arthur A. Beckett, writes to the papers:—"Owing to the inability of the liquidator of the estate of Sir William Russell, Bart., to comply with an order of the Court of Bankruptcy in reference to the *Tomahawk*, I am forced to stop the publication of that periodical at the height of its popularity."

Obituary.

CAMPBELL, EDWARD SELBY, of the Parliamentary Staff of the *Morning Advertiser*, on the 17th ult., aged 32.

CARRIDY, THOMAS J., for fifty years connected with the Irish Press, in his 70th year, at Limerick, on the 22nd ult.

HODDER, GEORGE, a well known journalist, late of the *Morning Post*, from the effects of a carriage accident, July 30th.

JUDAN, E. J., editor of the *Quincy Monitor* (U.S.A.), May 28th, by his own hand.

KIMBERLY, CHARLES W., a well known reporter on the American Press; and for the last sixteen years connected with the *Baltimore American*, June 8th, aged 48.

THOMAS, GEORGE E., city editor of the *Omaha Republican*, and formerly connected with the *New York Herald* and *Chicago Tribune*, June 7th, a man of brilliant attainments, well known throughout the Press world of the United States.

BANKRUPTS.

GRENVILLE MURRAY, EUSTACE CLARE, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, newspaper proprietor.

JUCH, ERNEST, Crane Court, Fleet Street, journalist.

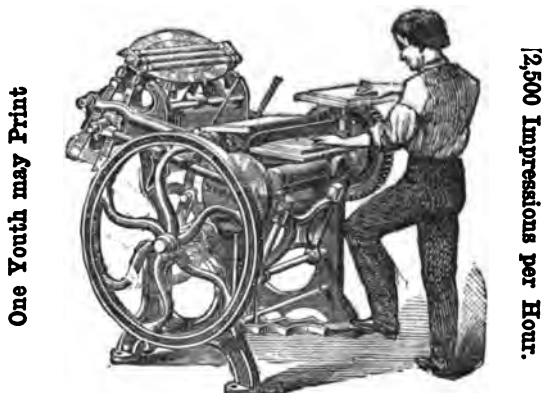
Notes and Queries.

HIBERNICUS.—In 1833, Mr. Carson, proprietor of the *Clonmel Advertiser*, was fined £1200 and 6*d*. costs, for a libel on Dominick Romayne, Esq., M.P., arising out of election excitement. In 1837, the same paper suffered a verdict in the Record Court, of £500 and 6*d*. costs, for a libel alleging that Miss Johnson had eloped with one of her relations. At the Waterford assizes in the same year, the *Tipperary Constitution* was mulcted in £100, and the *Tipperary Free Press* in £1000 for libel. This is all the information our Dublin correspondent can obtain for you, with reference to Tipperary. In May, 1835, Mrs. Lord, registered proprietress of the *Carlton Post*, was held to bail for a libel on Dr. Stone, written by a priest. Search the records.

H. S. CROPPER & CO.'S PATENT "MINERVA" PRINTING MACHINE.

This is the most Compact, Elegant, and Speedy Platen
Machine ever Made.

CAN BE WORKED BY HAND, FOOT, OR STEAM.



MAY BE SEEN AT WORK DAILY AT

H. S. CROPPER & Co's, NOTTINGHAM,
Patentees and Manufacturers.

TESTIMONIALS.

31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

Messrs. H. S. Cropper and Co.

Gentlemen,—We have pleasure in informing you that the "Minerva" Printing Machine, supplied to us about two months ago, gives us entire satisfaction. The simplicity of its arrangement, beauty of construction, and excellence of workmanship, combined with its other qualifications, justify all that you told us in its favour. The ease of its motion, and its great speed, are important features in the "Minerva;" whilst the freedom from danger in working assists in rendering it a very desirable machine.

Yours respectfully, **UNWIN BROTHERS.**

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

Messrs. Cropper and Co., Nottingham.

Gentlemen,—We most willingly give our testimony to the value and efficiency of your "Minerva" Machine, especially with regard to its speed and economy. We consider it the most useful time-saving machine that has come under our notice.

We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
CURTIS AND BEAMISH.

6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

Dear Sirs,—We have pleasure in stating that the "Minerva" Machine supplied to us gives satisfaction in every respect.

As a Machine for Cards and Small Jobs, we consider it unequalled, both in quality of work and the ease by which Jobs can be started.

Your Machine deserves a large sale.

Yours truly (for M^{rs} CORQUODALE and Co.),
D. CULROSS.

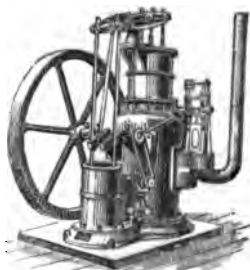
Since the above testimonial was given, Messrs. M^{rs} Corquodale and Co. have ordered a second machine.

Messrs. Cropper and Co.

Halifax, 23rd October, 1867.

Gentlemen,—The "Minerva" gives entire satisfaction. Every movement is smooth and easy, and the machine may, on this account, be run at a very high speed without danger. The distribution is perfect, and the form is rolled more evenly than could be done by hand. We are very much pleased with it.

We are, Gentlemen, yours most truly,
T. and W. BIRTWHISTLE.



THE PRINTERS' ENGINE.

EDWARDS & CO.,

37, KING WILLIAM ST., LONDON, E.C.,

MANUFACTURERS OF THE

PATENT HOT-AIR ENGINE.

THE ABOVE ENGINE IS BY FAR THE MOST ECONOMICAL MOTIVE POWER KNOWN.

COST OF WORKING, ONE PENNY PER HORSE POWER PER HOUR.

IT REQUIRES NO ENGINEER.
IT REQUIRES NO WATER.

IT REQUIRES NO GAS.
IT REQUIRES NO FITTING.

IT CANNOT EXPLODE.
IT DOES NOT INCREASE INSURANCE.

IT CAN BE STARTED IN A FEW MINUTES.

Sold by **HUGHES & KIMBER**, West Harding St., Fetter Lane, London.

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The original OLD-FACED LETTERS, engraved in the early part of the Last Century, by the celebrated WILLIAM CASLON, are in this Foundry.

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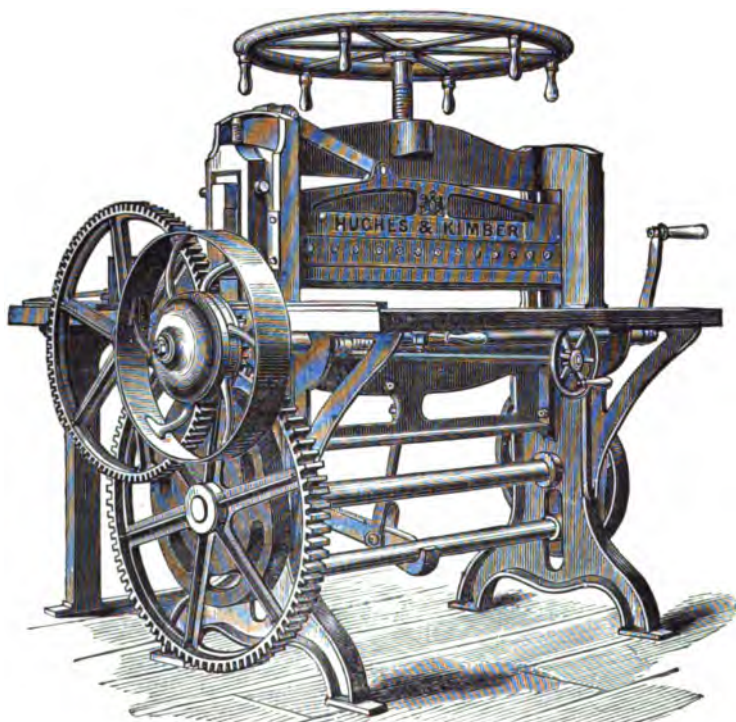
With combined Motion for Cutting Vertically or Diagonally, by Hand or Steam power,

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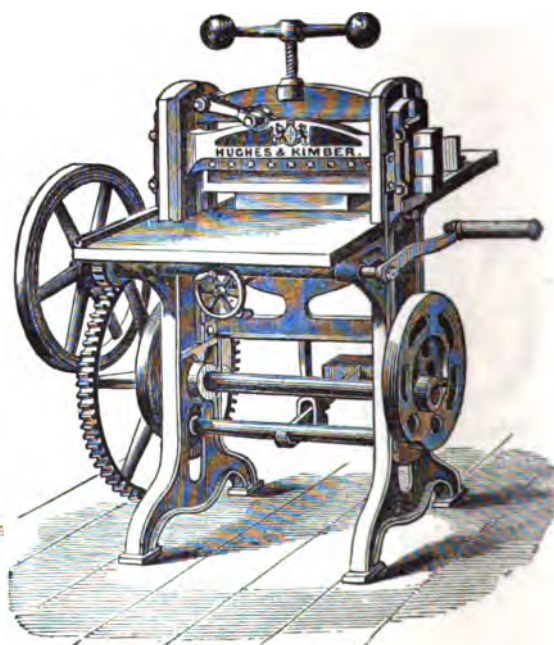
HER MAJESTY'S "ROYAL ARSENAL"
THE BANK OF ENGLAND
" "TIMES" OFFICE
" DAILY TELEGRAPH (2 Machines)
" MORNING AND EVENING STAR
Messrs. EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE (Queen's Printers, 5 Machines)
" PETTER & GALPIN (2 Machines)
" CHARLES MORGAN & Co.
" PERKINS, BACON, & Co.
" FOURDRINIER, HUNT, & Co.
" LEIGHTON BROTHERS (Milford House)
" J. DICKINSON & Co.
" J. M. KRONHEIM & Co. (4 Machines)

Messrs. WATERLOW & SON (4 Machines)
" GOODALL & DINSDALE (2 Machines)
" C. ROBINSON & Co.
" W. BONE & SON
" T. R. EELES & SON (3 Machines)
" BARRY & HAYWARD
" R. S. STACY & SONS (2 Machines)
" SAUNDERS, DYET, & SAUNDERS
" GEO. ROWNEY & Co.
Mr. T. H. SAUNDERS (Maidstone Wharf)
" T. F. NEWELL (2 Machines)
" R. BARRET
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FOR STEAM POWER.



FOR HAND.

This Machine is especially constructed for the cutting of Millboard, Cardboard, and Enamelled, Brown, Cartridge, Tea, Sugar, and soft and hard Printing Papers.

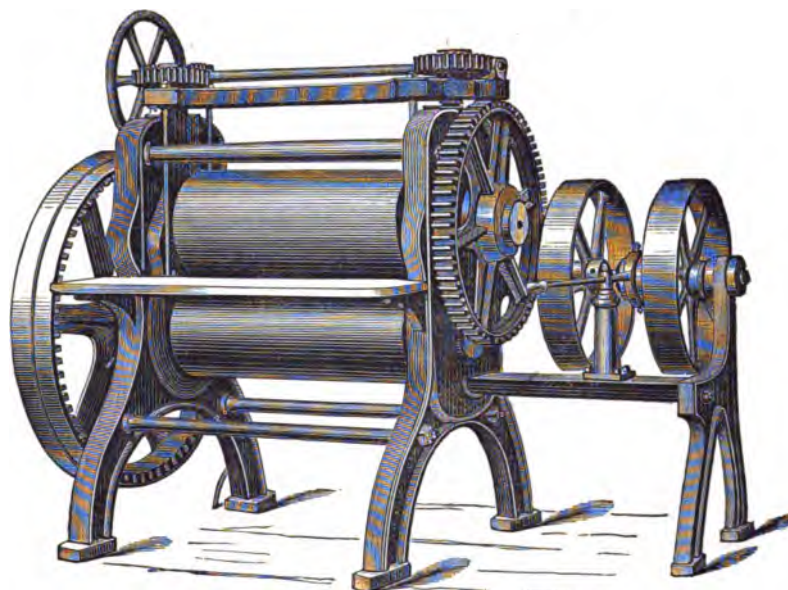
The change from the Vertical to the Diagonal Cut, and *vice versa*, is instantaneously affected by the simple withdrawal or insertion of a large Joint Pin. The Machine is carefully adjusted, well finished, and owing to its continuous movement, works with great ease and efficiency. Being fitted with a Patent Friction Pulley, the Knife can be stopped instantly at any required height. It is invaluable where large quantities are cut and power is available.

HUGHES & KIMBER,

WEST HARDING STREET, FETTER LANE, LONDON, E.C.

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**PAPER ROLLING MACHINE FOR STEAM POWER,
 WITH CHILLED IRON ROLLERS, AND CLUTCH MOTION, FOR REVERSING ROLLER.**

MANUFACTURERS OF

THE WHARFEDALE TWO-FEEDER PRINTING MACHINE (to print 3,500 per hour)

” ” **CYLINDER ditto (to print 1,500 per hour).**

” ” **CYLINDER, SINGLE COLOR ditto**

” ” **CYLINDER, TWO COLOR ditto**

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” **DIAGONAL AND VERTICAL PAPER CUTTING MACHINES for Steam and Hand Power.**

” **IMPERIAL PAPER CUTTING MACHINE.**

Also Millboard and Card Cutting Machines, Label Cutting Machine for Steam and Hand Power, Rolling Machine for Bookbinders and Printers, with Cast and Chilled Rollers; Paper Ruling Machines, Perforating Machines, Ink Grinding Mills, for Steam Power; Athol and Screw Presses, Steam Engines, Boilers, Shafting, &c.; Book-Sawing and Book-Scoring Machines, Iron Imposing Surfaces and Stands, Machine and Press Roller Moulds, Wrought and Cast Iron Chases, Side and Foot Sticks.

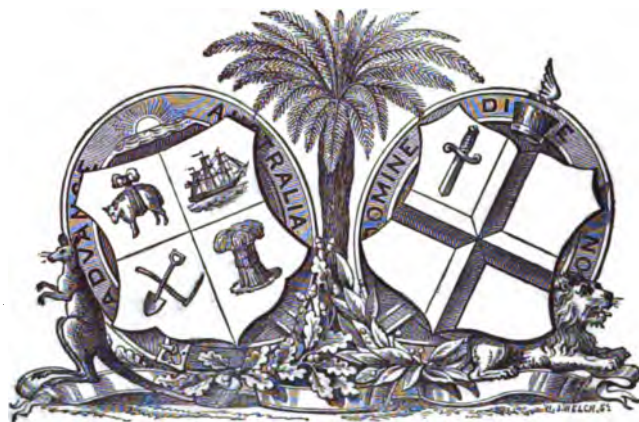
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Blocks for all kinds of Colour Printing executed in the finest Style of the Art.

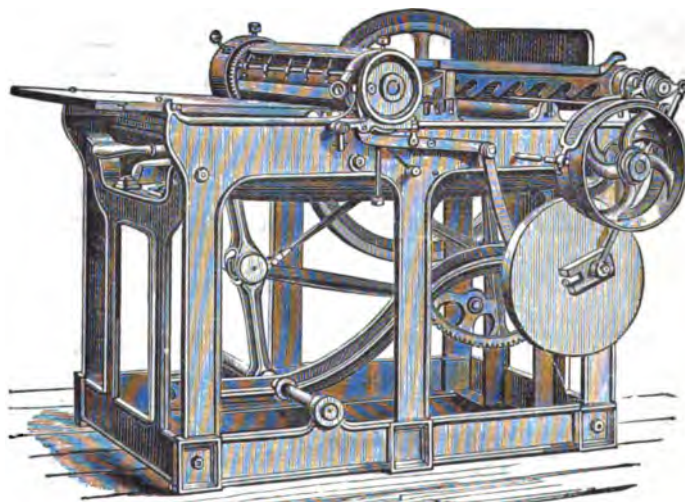
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ARRANGED FOR
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POWER.

HALF-SHEET DEMY,

£45,

*Including Two Sets of Roller
Stocks.*



SPEED,
1000 to 1500
PER HOUR.

SHEET CROWN,

£55,

*Including Two Sets of Roller
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THE "PARAGON" MACHINE.

HUGHES and KIMBER, West Harding Street, Fetter Lane, E.C.

Printed for the Proprietors by W. H. SMITH & SON, of 186, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the City of Westminster; and published by E. W. ALLEN, of 11, Ave Maria Lane, in the City of London. No. 46.—Thursday, September 1st, 1870.

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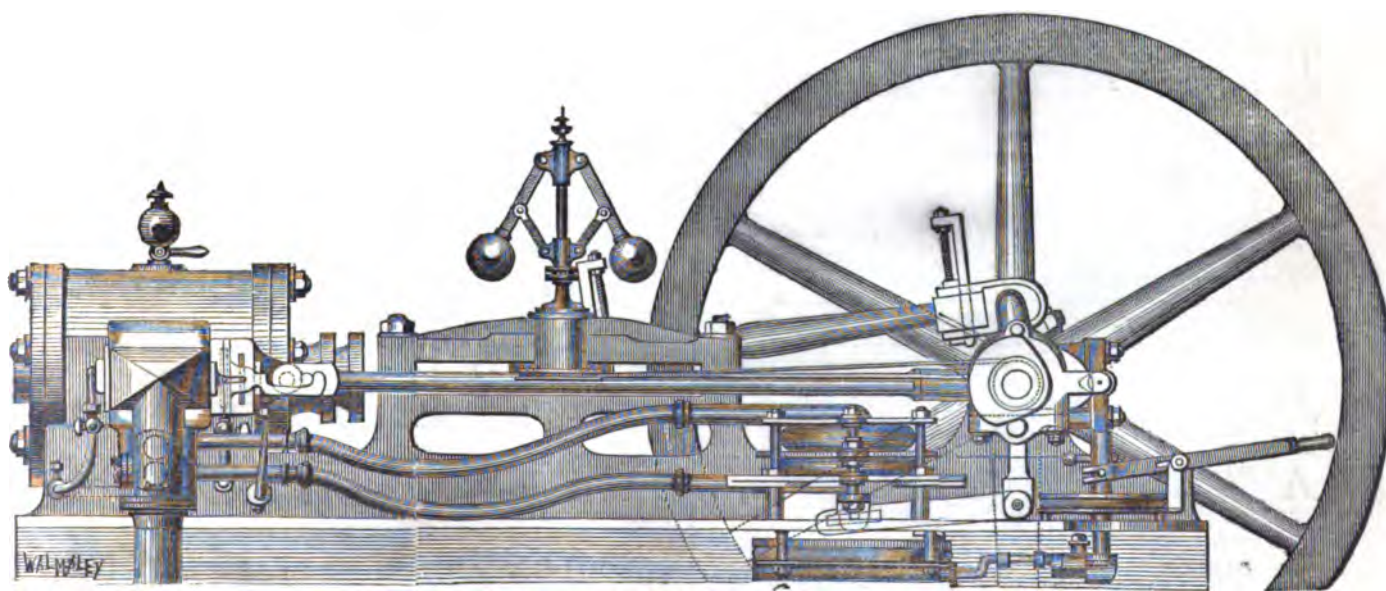
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Particulars, Testimonials, and numerous References may be obtained on application, and the Engine seen at Work.

FRED. B. VALLANCE,

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Price, Delivered in London—Quarter-Horse Power, £40 ; Half-Horse Power, £65 ; One-Horse Power, £85 ; Two-Horse Power, £110 ; Three-Horse Power, £130.

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TO BE SOLD (a bargain), a **FOUR-FEEDER NEWSPAPER PRINTING MACHINE**, by DRYDEN, to Print a Paper 40 by 26½ inches, in excellent working order. May be seen at work, on application to HUGHES & KIMBER, WEST HARDING STREET, FETTER LANE, E.C.

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TWO-COLOUR PRINTING MACHINE, by CONISBEE, (Double-Royal), nearly new, for sale cheap. Apply to HUGHES & KIMBER, WEST HARDING STREET, FETTER LANE.

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A SHORTHAND REPORTER (aged 26, married) seeks a **PERMANENT SITUATION**, either on a good local, or at a branch office of a first-class county newspaper. Good paragraphist, and writer of musical critiques, &c. Excellent testimonials. Address, with full particulars and salary given, T. C., 22, Meeting Street, Ramsgate.

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WANTED an Engagement as **COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER** for a firm doing with Printers, Booksellers, and Stationers. The advertiser has a good connexion in South Wales and Border Counties. Address C. M., 3, Tamworth Terrace, Hornsey Road, London, N.

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SOME interesting correspondence between the President of the Provincial Newspaper Society and the Postal authorities with reference to the new half-penny stamp has been issued to the members of the P. N. S. As some of our readers may not have seen the new stamps, we may say that the new half-penny adhesive stamp is same width and about two-thirds of the length of the ordinary penny stamp. It bears a profile of Her Majesty in a circular medallion, with the fractional sign of one-half on each side, printed in red. The wrappers for the newspapers issued by the Government are five inches broad and thirteen inches long. They are gummed at one end, and they bear a green stamp one and a quarter inches long by three quarters of an inch wide, in the centre of which is a profile of Her Majesty; above, the word "half-penny;" below, 1:10:70, the date of the introduction of the stamp. The newspaper wrappers are charged 4s. 6d. per hundred—fourpence being charged for the paper in addition to the value of the stamps. Every practical newspaper publisher at once saw that the size of the Government newspaper wrappers was a very awkward one, except for the *Times* and some of the thick quarto newspapers, and we were not surprised at the President of the P. N. S. writing on the 5th of September, the day after the specimen stamp and wrappers were issued, directing the attention of the Secretary of the Post-Office to the fact of the wrappers being issued in slips instead of sheets, to the awkward form of the slips, and to the necessity for a provision for spoiled stamps. He also enquired if appropriate dies would be used as heretofore, and which are allowed on envelopes, so that "no break should occur in the statistical history of the progress of journalism," as the continuance of the register would furnish much useful information as to the use of the Post-Office by newspapers in the past, and of their progress under the new regulations, which," as the President truly added, "in all probability will exercise a most important influence on the newspaper world." This letter reached the officials on the 6th, and on the 9th the following regulations were issued with respect to the points raised:—

- 1st. The paper must be white, and must neither be folded nor creased.
- 2nd. The size of the sheets must be double crown, double demy, or double royal.
- 3rd. Each sheet must be prepared to receive eight, 12, or 16 stamps; no other numbers can be impressed, and the stamps can be impressed only in the positions and at the distances apart indicated upon pattern sheets, which may be seen at the Head Offices at London, Edinburgh, and Dublin.

4th. The stamp will be impressed immediately above the place for the address, and near the right-hand edge of the wrapper. To give space for the stamp, any printing upon the sheets should be kept $\frac{1}{4}$ inches clear of what is to be the right-hand edge of the wrapper.

5th. Each lot sent in must be accompanied by a sheet marked, to show in accordance with which of the patterns it is desired that the stamps should be placed.

6th. The paper must be delivered at the offices abovementioned, in reams of 480 sheets.

7th. Not less than two reams for one description of wrapper can be received for stamping.

8th. Any sheets found to have been injured in the process of stamping may be returned to this office, with an equal number of fresh sheets, on the next occasion of similar sheets being sent in, when the stamps will be transferred.

9th. When the paper is brought for stamping, a person must attend at the Department of the Receiver-General, to fill up the necessary warrant, and to pay the amount of the stamps required. No discount is allowed.

10th. Persons in the country must not send to the offices through the post or by carriers, but must send through an agent.

A few days afterwards, on the 14th, Mr. Tilley coolly replies that the whole correspondence has been sent to the Inland Revenue Office, and the Inland Revenue direct attention to the foregoing notice, adding that the term "white" paper will include "toned" paper of a buff shade, and "that it will not be practicable to issue appropriated stamps for newspapers." In this latter point alone have the Government failed to carry out the understanding arrived at between the various deputations and the Post-Office officials; and this, it should be remembered, only affects a moiety of the newspapers.

Some difference of opinion having arisen with respect to the exact time when the half-penny stamp would come into operation, as the 1st of October falls on a Saturday, when the majority of weekly newspapers were published, the Government replied that anything posted before the 1st of October, would not come under the half-penny rate, so that a large number of newspapers bearing date the 1st of October will be posted before midnight on the evening of the 30th, and bear the penny stamp, and a large number will be posted after midnight with the half-penny stamp.

It should not be forgotten, that enclosures of all kinds in newspapers, except the regular supplements, are strictly forbidden. That there will be no retransmission without a fresh stamp. That the ends must be open. That the adhesive stamp is equally available with the impressed stamp. Where large numbers are posted, a clerk will attend at the publishing office to obliterate the stamps, so that there shall be no delay in the posting. Proofs, MSS., and "copy" of all kinds may be sent through the post henceforth at one half-penny for every two ounces, and a new three half-penny stamp will be issued to meet all possible combinations of postage value. Two or more stamps may be used to represent the value at this rate. These regulations are now in operation, and we cordially greet them with a hearty "welcome" as a further sign of progress and of freedom.

We receive so many enquiries from newspaper proprietors about that ingenious class of advertisers who contrive to get their announcements into provincial and the smaller metropolitan journals by business-like sort of proposals, that we reprint for their information and enlightenment the following shrewd remarks of our able contemporary the *Anglo-American Times*:—

"The simple dodge is, however, generally the most successful, as commonly practised in England. A man writes from a hay-loft in Birmingham, or in Liverpool or Bristol, on a printed form, asking the terms for a series of insertions, and the difference between a long or short period, haggling over the price, and stipulating the times for payment. His run is generally made on papers for whose space there is no eager demand, or the young and inexperienced, and, once set up and published, it is astonishing how long the bogus advertisement will be kept going, as hope is always at the bottom of the well, though if deferred till that advertisement be paid it would make the

heart of the proprietor very sick indeed. There is one point, however, about which the public ought to be warned; these advertisements almost invariably ask for postage stamps, on receipt of which some Little Wonder of a Microscope, or a Marvellous Timekeeper, &c., &c., will be forwarded."

For the —th time we say, DEMAND PAYMENT IN ADVANCE from these gentlemen.

THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PRESS.

X.—THE PROFESSIONAL SHORTHAND WRITER.

If the penny-a-liner is the "light skirmisher of the Press," how shall we designate the staid and stately professional shorthand writer, who on grand and special occasions is called in to assist the ordinary and regular newspaper staff? He is a "free lance," ready to follow any standard. He prides himself on the accuracy—the verbal accuracy of his work. His "note" is always full "verbatim, Sir," at the service of either editor, counsel, or solicitor. He cares little whether it is for Whig, Radical, or Conservative, plaintiff or defendant. His faith is the faith of columns and folios at a substantial remuneration. He despises the "penny-a-liner" who sometimes poaches on his preserves; he rises superior to "lines" and vulgar pence. He does nothing under half a guinea, and that only as a gracious favour. At the professional guinea you may command his pen and his services. The "liner," too, is scattered up and down the country without any fixed abode; the professional shorthand writer believes in an "abiding city," and has chambers near one of the inns of court in town—Chancery Lane, or maybe in Parliament Street, for so grand a personage is only found in great cities—London, Edinburgh, Liverpool, or Manchester—except on certain occasions when he is specially retained, or "goes circuit" under the aegis of Her Majesty's judges and the bar. There is no sign of vulgar Bohemianism about the shorthand writer. He disdains Brigand hats and the loose equipment of press men; he assumes a semi-professional garb, for sometimes the judge gives him a nod of recognition, and the leader of the bar sometimes deigns to notice his familiar existence, even when not engaged in taking a note of that brilliant opening or profound peroration by which the great lawyer hopes to increase his fees and reputation. With the stuff gowns and well-to-do solicitors your professional shorthand writer is on easy terms of familiarity in the court, or on the circuit he frequents. Sometimes he is enabled to speak a good word for a neglected clever junior, who ekes out his briefless days by writing leaders for "The Early Daybreak," or some sombre or sensational paper. A favour like this is seldom forgotten, and business flows in upon the shorthand writer, who generally makes a good income, apart from the press work on which he is regularly or occasionally engaged.

Of course, the most magnificent specimens of this "genus" are those who have graduated at "Gurney's;" who have paid the great shorthand monopolist £500 premium; served their articles in the air of St. Stephen's and Westminster; who are familiar with committee rooms and special commissions; who even disdain to write out their own notes, but are perfectly ready to affirm the literal accuracy of every word. It is only their business to correct. Slips of notes are sent out to transcribers who, learned in the stenographic system which bears Gurney's name, decipher every word, and prepare the copy for the lithographer or printer, ere the committee have risen with the announcement that "the Speaker is at prayers."

From the government shorthand writers' offices the professional reporter arose. A demand for special reports of special cases soon created the means of supply. In the young days of the art there was generally one to every court of law, who looked after the daily newspaper reports of law proceedings, took what "special notes" were asked for, and received retainers from country newspapers who were interested in local cases. There was, and is to some extent now, a familiar freemasonry between the country papers and the circuit shorthand writer, who was their London reporter, and therefore in a measure a portion of their staff. To him the country editor turned in his pressing need at a contested election for assistance. The country solicitors, when they had a "special bill" before Parliament, a long Chancery suit, or *cause célèbre* which required to be reported, were sure to re-

member the professional circuit reporter who represented the county paper, and give him the very remunerative commission to report the case, or to take a note of the evidence given in favour of or against the bill.

The introduction and spread of Pitman's phonographic system of shorthand, undoubtedly the best and most perfect system known, gave an impetus to the study of shorthand which soon produced the inevitable result of glutting the market with professional and amateur reporters. Prior to this time a newspaper reporter learnt shorthand to aid and facilitate his labours. It was by no means imperative that he should learn shorthand ere he had shown his fitness for the post, but now every phonographer imagined himself a reporter. A rage set in for verbatim reports, and when in 1855 the stamp duty was removed from the newspaper Press, every little local journal which started into existence was enabled to secure the services of a shorthand writer of greater or lesser efficiency. The more skilled writers moved to London, where they found the doors barred against them. The field was in possession of men who wrote Gurney's system, and who were occasionally called in to assist Gurney. They naturally looked with jealousy on the new comers. The phonographers of course were freetraders, and they waged a war with monopoly. They could see no reason why the government reporting should be confined to one family and their servants, whilst they wanted employment and were able to do it. If they had powerful friends, an M.P. would sometimes direct attention to the large item paid to the government shorthand writers, and then the great firm would unbend to give the troublesome professional a committee, or send him with a roving royal commission, and so enlisted him as a satellite of their own. By this means the number of firms of professional shorthand writers has permanently increased. The newer country papers know not the circuit reporter, and they are glad to have some connection with an established firm in London. From these firms have sprung offshoots, who render the other firms assistance and receive the crumbs which fall from the rich man's table; for the crumbs of a professional shorthand writer make a good newspaper reporter's mouth water with envy. The ordinary charge made by professional shorthand writers to newspapers is a guinea for a *Times* column of minion; sometimes a less sum is taken by contract, but for a column without a contract a guinea is a fair and reasonable charge. But when we enter the privileged courts, shorthand writers demand and receive from the public outside the newspaper world a guinea a day for taking notes, and eightpence per folio of seventy-two words for the transcript. In the case of proceedings before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and the Court of Appeal of the House of Lords, two guineas a day for note taking, and ninepence per folio for the transcript, is charged. Reports of lectures, sermons, and similar addresses, are usually reported at a fixed sum. A regular engagement for a number will lower the price. If the professional shorthand writer is taken or sent to a distance for newspaper purposes, of course he charges his railway expenses in addition to his guinea per column, or his fee per day, as may have been previously agreed upon.

The professional shorthand writer has a fashion of his own in transcribing his notes. He uses foolscap paper either ruled or unruled, and he writes twenty-five lines on a page. He has a red marginal line round the page, and he places the number of the folio at the foot of each. He writes on both sides of the paper, and when complete the whole is stitched in a paper cover and appropriately endorsed. The professional shorthand writer disdains sensational headings; he uniformly commences his copy with,

Court of Queen's Bench,
Westminster, September —, 18—.

(Before the Lord Chief Justice and a Common Jury.)

REGINA v. SMITH.

Then in lines he tells us that it is a "transcript of the shorthand notes of Mr. Stenographer." Then the names of the counsel for the plaintiff and for the defendant in lines, and then question, answer, speeches, and evidence in separate lines and paragraphs, using "Q" to distinguish the questions, and "A" the answers. These questions are what printers technically call "run out and indented." The "Q's" and "A's" are written together, with the

judge's or counsel's name, outside the red marginal line, whilst the fact of the cross-examination by the counsel, or the re-examination, is generally written in the centre of the line. These few points are the professional fashion, and sometimes the writer who sends such to a newspaper is disgusted to find that they are "run on" by the printer, as that is a proceeding which does not add to his prospective remuneration. They are more than compensated for this when a number of copies of their transcript is required, for then they employ lithography to a great extent, and when we mention that in a recent case the shorthand writers' charges (on both sides) amounted to £400, or about £100 a day, some idea of their occasional professional remuneration may be formed. As a profession they are increasing in numbers. To the newspaper world they act as the army of reserve, and the editor and proprietor with only a limited staff at his command, blesses them in his heart when a press of work occurs, for he knows he can depend on them to aid the "rank and file" under his command.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

NO. XXI.—REPORTS OF PROCEEDINGS IN COURTS OF JUSTICE, AND COMMENTS THEREON.

THE case of *RISK ALLAH BEY v. WHITEHURST*, in the Court of Queen's Bench, gave rise to much discussion, and to important *dicta* by the Lord Chief Justice of England, in June, 1868, at the *nisi prius* sittings after Trinity term in that year. The action was brought against the publisher of the *Daily Telegraph*, for certain libels contained in a series of letters from a correspondent of that journal at Brussels, relative to the trial of the plaintiff on a charge of murder of his ward, Charles Ready, and also in a leading article commenting on the proceedings and on the result of that trial. The innuendo in the declaration alleging the libel, was, that the plaintiff had been guilty of murder, and at all events was clearly guilty of forgery and fraud. The defendant pleaded "not guilty" only. There was no plea of justification.

The principal matter set out in the declaration as being libellous, was as follows:—"Risk Allah Bey has been declared not guilty, after a long trial in which the full energy of a system which assumes guilt has been brought to bear against him. He has been declared not guilty, after his whole life has been explored and ransacked in hopes of finding proof of crime. He has been declared not guilty, although he was proved to be in close and intimate connection with a convicted thief, and with an adventurer who was an adept, an "expert" in forgery. He has been declared not guilty after it was shown that he had a strong pecuniary interest in the death of young Ready. He has been declared not guilty, after it was affirmed by many witnesses, though controverted by others, that the position of the youngster's corpse was incompatible with the theory of suicide. He has been declared not guilty, in a word, in spite of terrible suspicions. The trial was not an easy ordeal for anyone to meet, whether guilty or innocent; and Risk Allah is entitled to the full amount of social recognition and reception which may fairly be granted to a man who has not been proved a murderer—nay, whose innocence of murder has been impressively affirmed by a jury. But when the great French barrister who defended him claimed that the accused should leave the court as a free man, whose character had been wantonly assailed, perchance the great French barrister tried to prove too much."

The above was contained in the leading article, which concluded thus:—"It may be granted that the continental system does not always secure a conviction, but we must repeat our assertion that a prisoner who was less clever and less prosperous than Risk Allah would, on the same evidence, have been convicted. We are glad that he has escaped, because to anyone with the heart of a man it must be a relief to know that so foul, so treacherous, so damnable a murder existed only in the fancy of the police; it is a relief to know that the poor lad's frenzy, or fear, or folly was the worst thing in the case; but we defy anyone to read the record of that long trial without coming to the

conclusion that the result might have been different had the defence been less skilfully conducted."

The letters of the Brussels correspondent contained incorrect statements of the evidence given on the trial, with comments of the writer upon the character and bearing of the plaintiff on that occasion, also expressions impugning the verdict of acquittal, and implying that the plaintiff should have been found guilty of murder, and that the proofs against him of forgery and fraud, for which it was said he was to be detained for another trial, were overwhelming.

In one of the letters, the following passage occurred:—"I have heard from witnesses and others many opinions about Risk Allah, and I may say, without exactly feeling bound to say it, that the full half of the personal testimony is in his favour—that is, that a great many people don't think he murdered Ready, though they believe him guilty of forgery and fraud; and the very same persons who take this view are not by any means disposed to pity Risk Allah. . . . I have, indeed, perceived a very general readiness to acquit, on the forcible proposition that he is a cross between a serpent and a tiger."

A great mass of evidence, occupying six days, was gone into, at the conclusion of which, and of the addresses of counsel, the Lord Chief Justice presented a minute recapitulation of it to the jury, with the following important remarks on the right of the Press to publish reports of the proceedings in courts of justice, with comments thereon. He said:—"Whatever may have been thought in past times, nowadays we are agreed on this, that fair and impartial reports of the proceedings in courts of justice, although incidentally those proceedings may prejudice individuals, are of so great public interest and public advantage, that the publishing of them to the world predominates so much over the inconvenience to individuals as to render these reports highly conducive to the public good; but the conditions on which the privilege can be maintained are, that the report shall be fair, truthful, honest, and impartial. It need not be a report of every word that passes upon a trial. No newspaper, however large, could report the proceedings in the full extent to which, upon a long trial, these proceedings necessarily extend. You may either have it to the utmost possible extent the limits of the paper will allow it to be given, or in the more condensed form of a summary or epitome, but you must have the report honest and fair. A newspaper may give a report of the proceedings of courts of justice properly condensed and fair, but it is not entitled, under pretence of giving a report, to add comments of its own, or to display facts not brought forward in the proceedings, but coming out of the reporter's own head. This is admitted on all hands to be the present state of the law. The question in this case is, whether the statements published contained a fair and impartial report of the proceedings which had taken place in a court of justice, or whether they were garbled, prejudiced, and passionate descriptions of what had occurred." With regard to the editorial comments, which had been complained of as having been made in the leading article, the Lord Chief Justice said:—"The discussion of public questions is so important to the well-being of society, and especially the discussion of what takes place in courts of justice and the results of trials, is also so important, that those who in the public Press of this country discuss these matters, have a decided right and privilege to treat upon the administration of justice; and even if a public writer in the Press should write that which turns out not to be well founded in the inference he draws, and is unable to justify the conclusion he has arrived at, yet, if he has acted in good faith in the discharge of his duty, bringing to it the amount of care, reason, and judgment which a man who takes upon himself to discuss public questions is bound to bring, so that the jury is of opinion that he has acted reasonably and properly, he will be protected by that privilege, although he may turn out to have been in error." In reference to some of the editorial comments, the Lord Chief Justice said:—"I quite agree that if by any oversight or want of firmness on the part of the judge or jury, a great criminal escapes, and, by a miscarriage of justice, a scandal is brought on its administration and the criminal is let loose on society, rehabilitated and let loose when he ought to be suffering punishment—in such a case . . . he would be doing no more than his duty in cor . . . "

monstrate with the tribunal through whose want of firmness the man has been acquitted. If that is done through that fair and reasonable exercise of judgment which the case demands, no jury ought to visit a public writer with damages because he has fairly and conscientiously discharged a public duty. On the other hand, if you think there has been rashness and recklessness in quarrelling with the verdict of acquittal which has declared the man to be innocent, and especially under a criminal prosecution, your verdict will be based on those considerations."

The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £960.

CLIPPINGS FROM AN OLD FILE.

LOT THE FOURTH.

STATISTICS OF 1849.—The aggregate number of stamps issued for newspapers in 1849 was—For England and Wales, 66,159,502 penny and 10,309,233 halfpenny stamps; for Scotland, 6,288,205 penny and 205,000 halfpenny; for Ireland, 6,345,227 penny and 38,843 halfpenny. The number of London newspapers from which advertisement duty was collected in 1849 was 160; the number of advertisements, 886,108; and the total amount of duty, at the rate of 1s. 6d. each, £66,458 2s. The number of English provincial papers was 232, from which £62,604 13s. 6d. was received for duty on 834,729 advertisements. In Scotland 94 newspapers furnished £18,075 16s. 6d. duty, the number of advertisements being 240,901. In Ireland the amount of advertisement duty collected was £11,026 4s., being at the rate of 1s. each for 220,524 advertisements. The number of Irish newspapers was 117.

THE "GLOUCESTER JOURNAL."—In the recent notice of this journal which appeared in the NEWSPAPER PRESS, I do not think the interesting fact was mentioned that it was one of the few provincial prints to which Edward Cave, the originator of the "Gentleman's Magazine," regularly supplied reports of Parliamentary proceedings, for printing which it got into trouble in 1728.

THE NATIVE PRESS OF INDIA.—In "Ledlie's Miscellany" for September, 1852, some particulars are given of the birth of the native Press in the north western provinces, from which it appears, that the entire receipts of the twenty-four newspapers then in existence was only 19,000 rupees per annum. The earliest of these papers was started in 1846. The highest circulation was 110 copies, the majority much below that figure, and the lowest was five copies only!

THE "LIFE WRITERS" OF THE LONDON PRESS.—The following is not strictly true of the present time, but was no exaggeration a few years ago. "There is attached to each of the chief London morning papers a functionary called 'the biographer,' whose literary employment it is to write, and be in readiness with, the memoirs of great and leading men, so that on their demise a day may not pass ere the public are put in possession of the prominent incidents of their lives and career. With the inexorable diligence of fate, the 'Life writer' of the London paper is always posting up the records of public men whose increasing years or falling strength renders it probable that death, at no distant day, may close their career. The machinery, indeed, is said to be so perfect, that memoranda of most living great persons are put away in a series of small compartments, under their respective initial letters, ready for use and compilation at a moment's notice. Thus we learn that not only are the Duke of Wellington, Lord Brougham, and other veterans of the Upper House, regularly pigeon-holed—waiting their inevitable turn in the 'biographical departments' of the chief London morning journals, and have been so for years—but even the premier himself, Lord Palmerston, Lord Stanley, and others, are posted up every session in these grim fly-sheets, with methodical precision, so that should any casualty call them ever so suddenly to their last account, only a few hours may intervene before their histories are thrown into shape, and served up in the columns of the morning Press." "Men of the Time" supply the facts, dates, and much of the materials of these articles now.

THOMAS KNOTT is a name not likely to be yet forgotten in the Midlands. He was one of the proprietors, and for a quarter of a century editor of *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, to which post he succeeded at the age of four and twenty. He was much respected in Birmingham, with most of whose public institutions he was connected.

THE OLD ADVERTISEMENT DUTY.—In the year ending January 5th, 1839, the number of advertisements inserted in newspapers was 1,670,191, producing in duty £120,809, 19s. 11d. In the year ending January 5th, 1853 (the year before the reduction of the duty), the number was 1,089,995, the duty amounting to £170,648, 13s. 4d.

THE "LONDON GAZETTE" OF "THE '45."—During the great railway struggle of 1845, a number of the *London Gazette* was published, containing 73 sheets of 584 pages, the cost of which to Government was 6s. 1d. It was sold for 2s. 8d., the profit of advertisements was about 2,500l. As much as 100l. and even a blank check, to be filled at discretion, was offered to correct blunders in notices after the advertisements had been in type, but without success. These blunders if discovered would have involved the total rejection of the scheme.

THE "LITERARY GAZETTE."—The decay of this historical paper was thus chronicled at the time by a contemporary:—"Like all other literary property, this publication has been subjected to fluctuations, in which its editor has been necessarily involved. For some years it was pre-eminent amongst many rivals, and was then a valuable property to the partners who possessed it, and to whose trading connections and influence much of its celebrity was owing. At the time referred to, Messrs. Longman and Co. had one-third share, Mr. Colburn another, and the editor the remainder; and their profits were very great, arising from the extensive sale of the work and the high charges for advertisements. Many of the rivals it created were short-lived and failed to affect its popularity; but one became powerful by its low price and the daring expenditure and energy of its proprietor. Hence that acquired a large circulation, whilst the *Literary Gazette* gradually lost ground. The two great publishing establishments resigned their shares, but the original editor continued for many years to struggle against increasing difficulties." Poor Jerdan! he died but the other day in comparative obscurity.

THE "COURIER."—Among the London papers, the *Courier* was once the leading journal. In 1815 it had a circulation of 8,000 copies—the largest of any paper in the kingdom—and it continued for several years. In 1809, Coleridge wrote for the *Courier*, and two years after was engaged at a salary to write for it regularly. During the greatest popularity of the *Courier*, Mr. Stewart was editor. This was the gentleman who killed Sir Alexander Boswell, author of "Travels in the United States," in a duel. Mr. Stewart supported the Whigs, and under Lord Melbourne's Ministry obtained a permanent Government situation. Laman Blanchard then became editor. It swayed a large influence, the Tories feared it, dreaded it, bought it out; Blanchard resigned, and the *Courier*, once the most valuable newspaper property in England, breathed its last on the 6th July, 1842.

THE "TIMES."—The "New York Quarterly Review" thus estimated the power of *The Times*, some fifteen years ago:—"It has been the terror of evil-doers, has had the envy of the little, the fear of the great: has been read by all, had the confidence of few, and been loved by none. The Irish judge, the country squire, and the London magistrate, fear to give decisions at war with reason, justice, and right, not because the law is strong, but because they will be exposed in the 'leading journal'—get pilloried in *The Times*. The sly and sanctimonious rogue fears nothing so much as publicity; caught, he repents not the wrongs committed, but the sins found out. He feels sad at the thought of a residence in Newgate; is not partial to Horse-monger-lane; and while contemplating the revolving wheels within the precincts of Printing-house Square, acts cautiously and timidly at the approach of danger,—

— "And to his Maker prays
Forgiveness for his crimes—
To keep him from temptation, and
The clutches of *The Times*."

A WEALTHY NEWSPAPER PROPRIETOR.—The will of Mr. R. Newcombe, the proprietor of the *Stamford Mercury*, was proved after his death some twenty years ago, for half a million, the bulk of which was made by the "family business" as newspaper proprietors for more than a century.

JOHN M. WILSON, the well-known author of "Tales of the Border," was for many years editor of the *Berwick Advertiser*. He died October 2nd, 1835.

GREEK NEWSPAPERS are interesting; it is a curious mingling of old and new to see the *Zarnp* or *Eavis* printed in the same characters in which Plato wrote his Dialogues and Aristophanes his plays.

PIERCE EGAN came of a respectable family and received a better education than he was usually credited with. He followed many avocations—composer, bookseller, sporting writer, and newspaper reporter. He was employed by the proprietor of the *Weekly Dispatch* to record the doings of the ring. Sixty years ago his presence was understood to confer respectability on any meeting convened for the furtherance of bull-baiting, cock-fighting, cudgelling, wrestling, and all that comes within the category of manly sports. Being turned off the *Weekly Dispatch*, he founded *Pierce Egan's Life in London and Sporting Guide* in 1824. It was published at the high price of 8½d. per copy. Upon reaching its ninety-fourth number a new series was commenced. In 1827 it was sold by auction; the purchaser was a Mr. Bell. Hence *Bell's Life in London*, a valuable property even in our day. We imagine Mr. Egan has been dead these many years. He was of a set who lived fast and died fast.

SENEX.

JOURNALS OF NOTE.

XVIII.—THE BIRMINGHAM JOURNAL.

THE *Birmingham Journal*, which claimed to have been "first printed in 1732," was established June 4th, 1825, in shares, by some of the leading Conservatives of the town, who confided its publication to Mr. W. Hodgetts, printer and stationer, and its editorship to Mr. Frederick Bakewell, son of Mr. R. Bakewell, the well-known geologist. It was intended to support High Church and Conservative principles, but, its editor being an Unitarian, his advocacy of the former principles was not very warm. The paper, accordingly, did not make its way as was expected. At the Gloucestershire summer assizes an action was tried in which the proprietors of the *Birmingham Journal* were defendants, and Mr. William Smith plaintiff. In this case damages of £1,000 were sought to be recovered for the copying from the *Salopian Journal* of Feb. 6, 1826, an account of the ill-treatment of "the idiot Smith" (as he was called) by his brothers and sisters, residing in Staffordshire. The case of the *Birmingham Journal* was tried first, and a verdict of £400 given against its proprietors. In the second case, against the Shrewsbury paper—the original publisher of the alleged libel—a verdict of £100 was given! The damages and law expenses, amounting to £1,100, fell so heavily upon the shareholders of the *Birmingham Journal*, that they agreed to give it up to Mr. Hodgetts, to conduct at his own risk and for his own profit.

In November, 1828, Mr. Bakewell having purchased the copy-right of the *Bath Chronicle*, left Birmingham, and his place at the *Journal* office was filled by Dr. (then Mr.) R. Shelton Mackenzie. Immediately afterwards commenced the national excitement about Roman Catholic Emancipation, and the *Birmingham Journal*, becoming one of the most decided opponents of that measure, grew so much in favour with the Conservatives of the town and neighbourhood (who had then no other organ of their principles), that in a few months its circulation was more than doubled, and its advertisements increased even in greater proportion. In November, 1829, however, Mr. Mackenzie left Birmingham, and the *Journal* was then committed to the surveillance of Mr. Jonathan Crowther, who had been a reporter on one of the Manchester papers. On January the 25th, 1830, the Birmingham Political Union was established, and the *Journal* soon became its organ—losing its distinguishing character of a Conservative paper. At length it was sold by Mr. Hodgetts to Mr. William Greathead Lewis (who had previously written the City articles

in the *Morning Herald*), and its politics became ultra-Liberal during the popular excitement touching the *questio vexata* of Reform. From him it passed into the hands of Mr. Robert Kellie Douglas, ex-sub-editor of the *Morning Journal*. Its circulation was not equal to what it was during the discussion of the Roman Catholic Emancipation Bill, and its advertisements had considerably fallen off. Its leading articles, in defence of ultra-Radical opinions, were written with ability and spirit.

The *Journal* was a folio paper until 1831, when Mr. Lewis altered it to a quarto size, when it was printed and published by Mr. F. B. S. Flindell, son of the former proprietor of *Flindell's Western Luminary*.

The paper subsequently became the property of Mr. G. F. Feeney and Mr. John Jaffray, in whose hands it remained for five and twenty years.

On the 13th of February, 1869, it was incorporated with the *Birmingham Daily Post*, whose history must be reserved for a future No.

MIDLANDER.

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER ON THE INFLUENCE OF THE PRESS.

THE Bishop of Manchester, on Monday, August 15th, inducted the Rev. Waldegrave Brewster to the rectory of Middleton parish church. Subsequently, he preached in aid of the liquidation of a debt upon the church schools. Speaking of the tendencies of the age, his lordship said there were two utterances of the blessed Lord which, he suspected, had He lived in these days of ours instead of the days in which He lived—had He lived after the discovery of printing instead of having come upon earth and discharged His mission 15 centuries before the printing press was discovered—He would have changed. Instead of the phrase used to His disciples, "Take heed what ye hear," and again, "Take heed how ye hear," He would have said, "Take heed what ye read," and, "Take heed how ye read." In these days, what with lecturers going about the country and drawing audiences after them, asking the uneducated and untrained to listen to them whilst they discussed such mighty problems as whether there was a God, whether the Bible had any claim to be a revelation, whether Christianity had done more harm than good to the world, they had truly to take the Lord's word in their literal and primary sense; but, inasmuch as most of their knowledge came to them in the shape of books, pamphlets, and newspapers—inasmuch as the power of the Press was far mightier than the power of the preacher or the lecturer—inasmuch as not everything that was printed was true, although a great many people thought that everything they saw in the newspapers was true—and inasmuch as everything that was printed was not edifying—therefore he said the preacher nowadays had to remind his hearers that the words of the Lord Jesus Christ, slightly paraphrased, were to charge his hearers to take heed what they read and how they read. He did not know how it had struck them, but it had struck him very forcibly at times that things at which the natural conscience revolted when put nakedly before one, some how or other when dressed up with all the cunning of artifice and sophistical argument, could be made to look so very plausible, so very persuasive, that one almost began to ask oneself, "Wasn't my conscience unnecessarily scrupulous, and unnecessarily sensitive, when it was so much shocked at hearing these things? After all it was not so bad; it wasn't so mischievous after I had listened to it. Ay, they listened like Eve to the arguments of the tempter."

THE deserted appearance of most of the principal streets of London on Sunday has always been the subject of astonishment to strangers. Special Sunday editions of the *Observer*, the *Dispatch*, and *Lloyd's News*, are now published during the day with the latest war news as it arrives. Huge placards are exhibited, the street vendors are as vociferous as on any day of the week, and the public display intense excitement to obtain the intelligence. Steady-going country ecclesiastics who only see London during the season, and even then seldom see its leading streets on Sunday, would be horrified if they now took a walk down Fleet-street.

"JENKINS."

Punch was almost too hard upon "Jenkins," but "Jenkins's" skin was not one of the softest kind, and I think, on the whole, he was rather proud of the tickling. Is Jenkins forgotten at the "Edinboro' Castle," the "Café de l'Europe," or the "Albion"? I fear he is.

But commend me to Jenkins at home. Six o'clock: Jenkins has dined and is somnolent in his easy chair. His man Friday has been ordered to wake him at nine, and get all his "things" ready for Lady H.'s soiree or the countess's ball. It takes the united efforts of the household to awake him, but, once awake, he put his feathers on, brushed his hair into that miraculous and well-remembered fashion, and with an ample display of silk or satin waistcoat, was ready for the cab five minutes before it came; although the cabman was always punctual to the minute, for did he not know that on the tick of his Dutch clock at home depended whether her ladyship's ball would be reported in next day's "fashionable organ" or not? From "her ladyship's," off goes the indefatigable Jenkins to "her grace's," and thence to the office to write out his report, and at three o'clock poor Jenkins, very much tumbled in attire, but sober as a judge and clear in intellect, as far as he possessed such a commodity, went home to bed. It wasn't kind of *Punch*, whose birth in that dull coffee room of the "Edinboro' Castle" was witnessed by Jenkins, to act so irreverently by his senior, and lampoon poor harmless, hard-working, shallow-pated Jenkins, because he had not the brains of a Thackeray. I don't believe he thought his lot a hard one, but more sensitive men might have done so, and it was not Christian-like to hold him up for ever to scorn—to invent a new construction of the word "snob" especially for his degradation, and to parade before the vulgar gaze the littleness of his flunkeyism.

I have heard that Jenkins won for himself a very honourable and trusted position, and was never ashamed to admit (as he had no cause to do—for he performed the character honestly and faithfully) that he was in his early days the great and original "Fashionable Reporter."

But it seems that Democratic America will not allow the breed to be lost. Too small as we thought Jenkins to be for the advanced stage of English journalism, a tadpole Jenkins has been spawned in the land, which, affecting to despise an hereditary aristocracy, is already so fruitful of "honourables" whose conduct often renders a new definition of that misused word desirable. For what does the *New York Citizen* tell us? "It is Jenkins who satisfies our gasping anxiety to know what coloured cravat young Snobbles usually wears, and who makes Fitzpilkins's boots, and what was the name and figure of that peerless creature in blue with whom Dandelion drove in the Park, and danced at the hop last evening. It is Jenkins who calms our frantic perturbation on the subject of Smith's engagement, who tells us how Brown didn't marry Miss Jones, and why Robinson did, and how many groomsmen and bridesmaids there were and what they all wore, how *recherché* the supper was, how lovely the bride and how *distingué* the groom, and where they went to after it was all over. It is Jenkins who gives us a catalogue *raisonné* of the wedding presents with their estimated values, and the names of the donors. It is Jenkins who quiets our gasping excitement in reference to that sumptuous *dejeuner à la fourchette* on Murray Hill, where the tablecloth was of moiré-antique, fringed with *point de Venise*, the tableware of massive gold set with diamonds, where all the gentlemen had pinks in their button-holes, and all the ladies had bees on their bonnets. It is Jenkins who is continually overwhelming us with the reckless profusion of his epithets, the dazzling magnificence of his millinery, the impossible gorgeousness of his haberdashery—who daily inducts us into an intoxicating atmosphere of beauty and chivalry, a Paradise of perfumes and laces and bright eyes, an Arcadia where there is naught but feasting and frolicking to the sound of pipe and tabor, and where the meanest victual is *Tokay toujours perdrix*. And finally, it is Jenkins who endows us with the delicious puzzle of his identity, the insoluble riddle of his omnipresence, the mystery of his acquaintance with scenes where

he could never have been, and of intimacy with people whom he could never have seen—the unanswerable conundrums, the perennial charade—who is he, and how does he find it all out?

"Nobody has ever seen Jenkins, nobody knows him, nobody invites him to the parties he describes so minutely. Everybody knows, indeed, he wasn't there. And yet, how does he find it out? Is he dexterously concealed in the butler's pantry while the feast is going on? Does he disguise himself as a waiter (with the help of a dress coat and a white choker—the feat, we fancy, would not be so difficult)? Does he lurk under the table or behind the sofa, or hear the brilliant talk from his coigne of vantage on the chimney? Does he hide, like love among the roses, under the magnificent pyramid of flowers whose beauty and costliness he dwells on so rapturously? Shall we look for him among the musicians? Is he the bass-viol, perhaps, or the second fiddle? Does he always jump up behind on the carriage wherein the happy couple are whirled away to car or boat? Or is he, indeed, that remarkably gentlemanly person whom one meets at every social gathering, however small, whom nobody knows, and everybody thinks that everybody else knows, whom the guests take to be the particular friend of the hostess, and the hostess imagines an intimate of each of her guests, and who, after supper (never before), vanishes as silently and suddenly as he came? Is he indeed that mysterious and romantic being? Or is he not rather—we offer this solution with mingled diffidence and pride—is he not rather the ghost of the late N. P. Willis himself, the Great, the Unapproachable, the Only, Original Jenkins, who thus revisits the pale glimpses of the moon to indulge in his favourite diversion; who hovers awhile over each scene of familiar gaiety and then hies him to the editorial sanctum, where unseen fingers pen the glowing lines, and guide the unwitting compositor's labours?

"And shall we grudge the poor return of praise to him who works for us all these marvels? Forbid it, Heaven! Rather let us prostrate ourselves in worship before him, and let us bring him offerings of frankincense and myrrh, and inventories of our clothes, and our candlesticks, and our stewpans, and all our precious things, that our names may be great through the land, a pleasant noise in the ears of men and a sweet savour in their nostrils. So shall we achieve that most desirable end of every proper American ambition, to be talked about and written of in the newspapers, and to have our wives and daughters talked about and written of, and their good points catalogued like animals in a horse-fair, for the benefit of the fancier and the admiration of the bar-room. So, once again, three cheers for the noble Jenkins, and let us all, as soon as we find him out, invite him to dinner immediately."

It is pleasant to think that honest Jenkins, or "Je-ames" (for they were uncommonly alike), is transplanted in the spirit to a land where his talents are appreciated, and where, at all events, his peculiar style of literature will neither be considered snobbish nor vulgar. The fashionable "liner" is many degrees above the interviewer, after all.

TOBY.

NEWSPAPER PRESTIGE.—The numerous failures of which people hear nothing, but in the aggregate make a prodigious loss yearly, arise from the supposition that the newspaper has only to be produced; whereas if it were edited by an angel it would make no headway (except under a combination of peculiar circumstances), for years and years, while it certainly would make any amount of leeway whatever its merits, which would most likely land it among the breakers. It is not the journalist who asks—"What is in a name?" for he knows that everything as regards a newspaper is in the name; that an article which would be "sensational" and extensively quoted, if published in one, falls dead when published in another; subjects fully discussed by a certain journal only rise into importance many days after when taken up by another journal. It is not the circulation to which this is due, for the *Telegraph* has a far larger circulation than the *Times*, and the *Echo*, as far as sales of copies go, than both; while *Lloyd's Weekly* would exceed the daily circulation of the three combined. It is not well-written articles; for the *Observer* is far from remarkable in this respect, yet its influence is considerable. But it is a sort of undefined prestige which enables a man to give force to his argument by asserting that the *Times* says so, the *Pall Mall Gazette* says so, or the *Saturday Review*.—*Anglo American Times*.

REVIEW.

Franklin Society Publications, No. II.—Early Newspapers in Illinois. Read before the Franklin Society by Henry R. Boss. Chicago: Published by the Franklin Society.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

THE third Illinois paper in point of time was the *Edwardsville Spectator*, established at Edwardsville, Madison County, in May, 1819, by one Hooper Warren. It was Mr. Warren's destiny to start probably more newspapers than any other man, not excepting our own Alario Watts. One of his contemporaries, the Hon. W. H. Brown, thus describes him:—

"Mr. Warren was a practical printer, industrious and energetic. He spared no pains to carry out his original design, and was eminently successful. His paper was decidedly the best of its contemporaries, and exerted a far greater influence. Under all circumstances Mr. Warren maintained an independence of thought and speech, and failed not strongly to impress upon his readers his own sentiments of right and duty, however unpalatable or unpopular. He was a strong and ready writer, or rather composer, for it is said that his editorial articles came direct from his mind into his composing stick—seizing the strong points of an argument, and presenting them with great force."

No doubt, arguments presented at the point of the stick would have great force—the cleverness or refinement of such *extempore* arguments may be left in doubt—but we dare say Mr. Warren was a worthy man, who paid his bills regularly, had little learning but strong convictions, and was not very nice in expressing them. In these respects he was only one among hundreds of thousands; but, as a founder of newspapers, he stands almost alone:—

"Mr. Warren commenced the *Sangamo Spectator* at Springfield, February 1819, which he continued one year. He established the *Galena Advertiser and Upper Mississippi* at Galena in 1829. In 1836 he established the *Commercial Advertiser* at Chicago, and conducted it for about one year. In 1841, in company with Z. Eastman, he established the *Genius of Liberty* at Lowell, La Salle County, and continued it one year, when the establishment was removed to Chicago, and conducted by Mr. Eastman, under the name of the *Western Citizen*. In 1851, Mr. Warren leased for one year the press and type of the *Bureau Advocate*, at Princeton, and published that paper during the time. From 1852 to 1855, he was associate editor with Mr. Eastman in Chicago in the *Western Citizen and Free West*."

Poor Warren never achieved the success his industry deserved: perhaps he was too speculative, for he seems to have been always on the move, "a year" being apparently the average extent of his connexion with any one paper. He writes with a simple pathos that tells its own tale. "You will see my editorial experience has been a succession of failures—but most of the pioneer editors can say the same." He died at Mendota, Illinois, August 22nd, 1864, at the age of 74 years.

Mr. Boss touches upon the early history of the Mormon Press, which seems to date no farther back than 1839:—

"In the fall of 1839, the Mormons commenced, at Nauvoo, the famous *Times and Seasons*, a small octavo monthly, Don Carlos Smith (brother of the prophet), and Ebenezer Robinson, editors and proprietors.

"In 1842, William Smith, another brother of the prophet, issued at the *Times and Seasons* office, Nauvoo, a small weekly newspaper, called the *Wasp*. This was soon after enlarged, and called the *Nauvoo Neighbour*, by John Taylor, one of the prophet's twelve apostles.

"In the spring of 1844, discussions arose among the Latter-Day Saints, and the *Nauvoo Examiner*, established for the avowed purpose of exposing the enormities charged upon the Mormon leaders, was issued by William Law, Wilson Law, Robert D. Foster, Charles Foster, Francis M., and Chauncey S. Hughes, and conducted by Sylvester Eumans. Only one number was issued, as the press was declared a nuisance by the city council, and the materials and press burned and destroyed by the city marshal on the 10th of May, 1844. It was during the troubles which grew out of this offence that the Prophet Smith lost his life on the 24th of the following month.

"In the spring of 1846 the Mormons procured the services of a Mr. Matlack, a Gentle, who took charge of the *Neighbour* office, changed the title to that of the *Hancock Eagle*, and, for a short period, published a very able and spirited Democratic paper. The death of Matlack, and the removal of the great body of the Mormons in 1846-7, terminated the career of Mormon papers in Hancock County.

"About this time an anti-Mormon paper was started, called the *New Citizen*. The office soon after passed into the hands of James M'Kee, who published, until 1850, the *Hancock Patriot*."

The connexion of the judges of the land with newspaper property is a fact in America which there seems no delicacy in publicly speaking about, as there is no pains taken to conceal it; but we do not apprehend that "the late Judge Bailhache" was a "real judge." He is mentioned as having in May, 1837, purchased one half of the *Alton Telegraph*, "and assumed the exclu-

sive editorial control of the paper," which he continued to exercise till 1852, when Mr. E. L. Baker was associated with him in the editorial management. Finally Judge Bailhache disposed of his share, and, we presume, abdicated the editorial throne in July, 1854.

"Judge Bailhache was a native of Jersey, one of the islands in the British Channel, but emigrated to the United States at an early age. He occupied the station of a public journalist in Ohio for more than thirty years, and was connected with the *Alton Telegraph* about seventeen years.

"The venerable George Churchill says of him that, 'as a gentleman, a printer, and an editor, he was of the old school.' He died at Alton, September 2nd, 1857."

The Hon. Charles H. Lanphier, of Springfield, contributes to Mr. Boss's very interesting paper a history of the *Illinois State Register*, and, in winding up his experience as editor of that journal, he exclaims.—"In one capacity or other I was in the establishment from its foundation until November, 1863, nearly twenty-eight years, and have been thanking the Lord every day since for my release from the drudgery of newspaper life."

It is clear the man's heart had never been in his work—an *contraire*, we may safely aver that Mr. Boss has thrown heart, soul, and mind, in addition to labour and research, into this most entertaining contribution to the papers of the Franklin Society.

FALSE CHARGES AGAINST JOURNALISM.

(From the *Illustrated Midland News*).

THERE is no greater delusion abroad than that those who supply the public with intelligence concoct lies and give them publicity. We have no hesitation in declaring that there is not an editor in England who, during this war, has knowingly and willfully given currency to an error on a matter of fact. The public may have an aversion to falsehoods; but their dislike is as nothing to the hatred of the journalist. These charges against the Press come with a bad grace just now; for what energy, what expenditure, what enterprise, what sacrifice are to be found in any branch of business equal to those qualities displayed during the last two months by the journals of Europe for the sake of the public? With no chance of glory, without striking a blow for themselves or their country, our special correspondents have gone forth into the very midst of the horrors, the hardships, and the dangers of war, in the service of those who stay at home and abuse them mercilessly if a stray mistake happens to get printed. Not any pay that they can receive, not any honours that will ever be theirs for the work they are doing, can compensate these gentlemen for what they have endured in the Rhine provinces since the middle of July as soldiers of the Press. They are generally men whose pens would gain for them an honourable and lucrative subsistence at home, and only a certain devoted enthusiasm in their profession carries them to the war. In spite of immense difficulties they have told the story of this frightful struggle with great power, and, upon the whole, with remarkable accuracy, and they have not deserved the reprobation that people are ready to heap upon them because an incorrect report happens to circulate that MacMahon is dead, or that Bazaine has escaped from Metz. If the public will give the subject a moment's reflection they will see that they owe a debt to journalism which is by no means paid when they give a penny or a halfpenny for a newspaper containing a large amount of news, many columns of literature of a very high class, and a marvellously small proportion of error.

Of all contributors to newspapers, the greatest bore is the man with just enough classical knowledge to hunt through Webster's big dictionary and unearth Greek and Latin roots, to which he fastens Saxon stems—to fish up old forgotten and unused idioms from books of quotation—to invent a bastard terminology that may serve to delude the unlearned reader into the belief that the writer has a great smattering of art—and to wearily bundle all these misty absurdities together, and bind them with a chirography that would disgrace a schoolboy and drive a compositor crazy, with punctuation which seems to have been shaken over the paper from a pepper-box,—who has just sense to do all this, but doesn't know enough to stick the product of his ingenuity into the fire. This ghoul—this *chiffonier*—this tumble-bug—is a weariness to the soul of an editor and an imposition upon good nature. May the Lord smite him!—*San Francisco News-Letter*.

THE WEAR AND TEAR OF JOURNALISM.

(From the *Civilian*).

IMMENSE numbers of skilled mechanics work in large and well-ventilated shops, and their labour, though calling for serious muscular exertion, involves no undue tax on the system. A labouring man at the end of a day's toil may find the walk home an irksome, if not painful, task; but he is certain of perfect and unbroken sleep, and rises in the morning refreshed for the toil of the day. The journalist too often toils at night, sometimes in a close unhealthy atmosphere, and unfortunately his work is of such a nature that he cannot, when it is finished, lay aside his tools, and all thought of his special anxieties at will. He lays an excited and overworked head on his pillow, and begins anew the labours of the day, or, in spite of his utmost efforts to the contrary, works out some difficult problem which has been suggested by the events of the hour. His rest is frequently broken, and when the mind is not running a devil's dance of its own accord through all the mazes of literature or politics, he is often obliged to sleep over a question which requires more thought than usual.

"Happy is he," says Wendell Holmes, "whose feet are ice, and whose head burns when in the throes of composition." Happy, perhaps, in a certain sense; for the clever essayist merely meant that no real mental toil is properly performed without these symptoms being apparent in the victim. But does it not occur to the most cursory thinker that phenomena of this description, repeated daily, must in the long run tell upon the general health? We have known writers who, when they had risen from their tasks—poor pale-faced fellows ordinarily—looked positively ruddy and bloated, while the veins of the forehead were gorged with blood. They were always the dashing scribes of the Press—men who could "throw off" a column in an hour, and who never cared to make any material alterations in their "proofs." They were the men with fluent pens—so dear to editors—who could always be counted upon to sum up a debate at three in the morning, or write at need when any casualties had reduced the literary staff. We never knew these writers to be long-lived men; they were commonly stricken down at a comparatively early period in life, when, with proper care, a man ought to count upon many years of health and strength. And it was always the same deadly foes which cut them down—either apoplexy or paralysis, the twin fiends that haunt men who labour with the brain. Sometimes consumption steps in and does its cruel work, as in a recent case, when a brilliant essayist fell in his prime, and with mental power untouched, before the terrible destroyer of British youth. But whatever the immediate cause of death, brain labour is usually the first originator of disease. Driven to its daily toil, and compelled to work at all hours, the over-exerted organ either absorbs the general powers of the system, or gives way without warning under the unequal strain.

Few writers bear to reflect on these truths, and if the mind performs its task with its wonted power, they put off the evil day, and care nothing for the future. Or a journalist will complacently contemplate any danger which may lie in the distance, if he is certain for the present to escape from what, for the want of a better name, we have called the paralysis of the pen. Every writer will understand what we mean, and may have groaned over this, the most trying of the small evils which beset mankind. Whether paralysis of the pen be the precursor of more serious evils behind—a silent but eloquent protest against overwork—we know not; but, whatever its cause, it is a malady which is worthy of a passing allusion. The symptoms are usually painful enough, and the disease may be summed up in a word. The writer finds himself suddenly, and without apparent cause, unable to pen a single line. For the moment he imagines himself paralysed; he tries again and again with the same result—failure. Throwing aside the useless weapon which has hitherto served him so well, he casts about for the cause of the unusual phenomena. Was it his dinner?—that confounded roast beef always upsets one—or was it the claret? He again attempts to write, and again fails. Perhaps the fit lasts for an hour or two, or even for a whole day; and no effort of the will, while the spell is upon the brain, can recall the truant powers to subjec-

tion. But the fit ends as suddenly as it came, the mind clears instantly, and the by-no-means complex topic which the moment before seemed so difficult is lucid, and all is "plain sailing" again. The sufferer, of course, speedily forgets the visitation. For the moment, perhaps, he is led to reflect upon the slender tenure by which he holds the noblest of the intellectual faculties; or he forms good resolutions, which are forgotten under the pressure of the next day's duty, and the old abuse of excessive work is continued. Paralysis of the pen, as we have hinted, is, perhaps, one of those merciful warnings which Nature sometimes affords us before she assumes the part of avenger of her violated laws. It is, at all events, a hint which should not be neglected, and we advise our brethren, when next the unwelcome visitant comes upon them, to make some effort to obtain that repose which is so readily accorded to all but the unfortunate journalist.

DR. RUSSELL AS A WAR CORRESPONDENT.

(From the *Anglo-American Times*.)

It is curious to see columns of the *Times* detailing the merest trivialities connected with the boots and the blankets, the uneven place in the saddle, and the high trotting nag which frayed the correspondent; the hard, dried up cheese, which tested alike his teeth and his digestion. Still, even these are of use in conveying true pictures to the public. Dr. Russell owes to his egotism no small share of his success, which, of course, required a fluent style and a natural aptitude for taking in, as well as narrating in a picturesque and telling style, all occurring around. The hundreds with far higher abilities fail through their want of appreciating the value of trifles for filling in the sketch. If they only take note of the grand operations they will have their mountain, but nothing else, and the public eye will turn with weariness away from an outline with which they have been surfeited. The prominent events are soon known, and what the public then require is a knowledge of the means which led up to them, of the labour, the details, the life-like narrative which carries the reader along, seeing what the writer sees, doing what he does, and feeling as he feels. To do this the correspondent's strain must be egotistical, and though he might not feel inclined he should treasure up little occurrences, conversations, and personal feelings, and not be ashamed to dwell on them, in spite of the *Saturday Review*. We can follow Bull Run Russell alike in his frantic rush from his palanquin when the Oude cavalry charged the baggage of Lord Clyde's army near Bareilly; from the field which Americans comically have given him as a nickname; from his tower at Königsgratz; from his height at Balaklava; to his tent life in India, the discomforts of which he piteously dwells on; to his wanderings in the Southern States; to his allotted quarters in the French towns, as he moves along with the army of the Crown Prince. But it would be impossible to do so unless Dr. Russell had indulged in a vast amount of "gabble." He certainly managed to make himself, and some of the "swells" he accompanied, ridiculous. Notably, Lord Clyde; but even that pertains to the egotism which has been a main element of his success. He and his friend Clyde did the Indian campaign. . . . Clyde sent for me at 3 o'clock this morning to lay all the plans before me, and I took the liberty of conveying a hint, whereon Mansfield was immediately roused up for its consideration. . . . Beauregard escorted me through the works, and minutely detailed the designs and their objects. As a neutral I did not consider myself justified in suggesting improvements, though I could see clearly enough many faults and omissions. . . . The Crown Prince, with the greatest affability, shook me warmly by the hand, and I do not consider it any exaggeration to say that the light of his eyes told the feeling of his heart that the interview was an augury of victory. . . . This is Bull Run Russell on the stampede, and the Red Indian of the *Saturday Review* thinks him fair game for shooting his arrows at. Nevertheless Russell, in his sober moments, is a good draught animal, which has done much to drag through the dense mire of stupidity the national car of knowledge, to give "white" accounts (as the *Spectator* says) of the war, and to tell the truth without fear, though often at personal risk and inconvenience.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Sept. 22.

ON the vague chance of this letter reaching you in time for your impression of October 1, I sit down to write a few lines under difficulties: for surrounded as we are here by the Prussian armies, who have not only full possession of all the railways and roads leading out of Paris, but whose light cavalry are patrolling day and night and are particularly watchful that no one enters or leaves the city, and in daily expectation of an attack of some kind or even a bombardment, it is no easy matter to smuggle out even a letter with any certainty that the messenger—however trustworthy he may be—will have it in his power to post it at some country office beyond the line of the enemy's outposts.

The events of this month, beginning with the surrender of Sedan and MacMahon's splendid army, the captivity of Napoleon, the downfall of the Empire, the proclamation of the Republic, and the siege of Paris, will justly form a conspicuous page in the history of the world; whilst the decree of the Provisional Government proclaiming liberty of the Press, the abolition of stamp duty on newspapers and other printed matter, and the liberation of all persons imprisoned for Press offences, will mark an equally important era in the history of the Press in France. Among the first to profit by the new order of things was Henri Rochefort, who—Red Republican as he is—is installed as one of the eleven members of the Provisional Government, in consequence of which appointment he has disconnected himself from the management and editorship of the *Marseillaise*, though it is understood that it still remains his property. A host of journalists who, to escape punishment for having expressed their opinions too freely under the Emperor's Government, had taken refuge in England, Belgium, Switzerland, and other countries, have now returned to France, and others would have flocked in but for the difficulty of getting into Paris, and perhaps also from personal considerations and the necessity of taking part in the defence of the metropolis in some manner, either in the regular army, or as Garde Mobile, volunteer, or Garde Nationale; for it is wonderful what a number of literary men have all of a sudden discovered that the air of Paris does not agree with them, and they must go into the country to recruit their health, or they are unavoidably compelled to attend the bed-side of some sick friend or dying relative at a respectable distance from Paris. Among these recalcitrant journalists may be mentioned M. Villemessant, chief editor of the *Figaro*, on the plea of ill health, M. Emile de Girardin, of the *Liberté*, on urgent private affairs, and M. Detroyat, one of the most noisy writers in the *Liberté*, on an alleged secret mission of importance in his capacity of lieutenant in the navy. Girardin had to read some harsh language against himself in the *Siècle*, which took him to task for running away from Paris, to which attack he replies by a letter dated from Limoges, in which he says "Time will show whether you are of greater use in Paris, or I in the country." Girardin appears to be pursued by misfortunes; for as his late attempt at founding *La Victoire*, for the express purpose of recording the progress of the invading French army in their victorious promenade from Paris to Berlin, completely broke down, and he only made himself ridiculous, so the latest child of his fancy, *La Défense Nationale*, which was to appear at Limoges, has been stifled at its birth, as a M. Emile Madoulé of that city has taken time by the forelock, and publishes a Republican journal under the very same title that M. de Girardin had selected for his own new enterprise.

And now, having at length obtained the fullest liberty of the Press, let us hope that France will know how to use the mighty engine so suddenly and unexpectedly placed in her power with becoming moderation. If ever they again suffer it to be snatched from their grasp and are again subjected to arbitrary control and censorship, it will be their own fault, caused either by abusing the power in their hands, or from moral weakness in surrendering it up again to unscrupulous rulers.

The lately established half-penny paper *Le journal du Peuple*, of decided Republican tendency, has become a formidable rival to the *Petite Journal*, the *Petite Presse*, et hoc genus. Amongst the editors and contributors whose names are published may be found several belonging formerly to the *Marseillaise*, such as Louis Noir, Francis Enne, Eugene Mourot, Germain Casse, and George Puissart. None of them get any regular pay, but divide the profits in certain proportions after deducting the printing expenses.

Though at the beginning of the war all journalists and special correspondents were strictly prohibited from following the French armies, yet several enterprising writers were courageous enough to follow in their track and report home the march of events as they occurred. It may be doubted, whether it would not have been much better to allow their presence with the army, acknowledge their status, and give them official information and moral support. The Press would unquestionably have been better served, and the public not been kept in the dark and hoodwinked as they have been. As the greatest secrecy was preserved concerning the operations of the army, a wide door was opened for the display of inventive genius; and as the correspondents were unable to write facts and the real march of events, they were compelled to make up reports drawn from their imagination, or based upon information derived from very unreliable sources, by which they have not only made themselves ridiculous in the eyes of Europe, but caused unlimited mischief at home by distorting facts, exaggerating successes, and diminishing reverses, which system has been pursued to the very last and still continues, though the eyes of most people have been at length opened to the hopelessness of the situation. Many of these enterprising journalists got into more or less serious scrapes of different sorts; thus, the correspondent of the *Journal des Débats* was wounded at Forbach, M. Jezierski, of the *Soir*, was missing for some time and was supposed to be killed or taken prisoner; but he turned up again with an account of the battle of Spikeren. M. About was missed for a still longer period; his letters—with more or less exaggerated accounts of his personal adventures—have been translated into English and appeared in the columns of some of your contemporaries. M. Mitchell and Paul de Cassagnac, both attached to the editorial staff of the *Pays*, and who were serving as volunteers in the Garde Zouaves, have both been taken prisoners of war and are now confined in a Prussian fortress; and M. Henri Chabrillat, correspondent of the *Figaro*, sent the following sensational telegram to that journal: "A miracle that we are alive. Saved, with Cahun of the *Guaiolois*, by the Duke of Cobourg. Stripped of everything. Were made prisoners with some peasants, who were shot."

M. Auguste Dumont, the temporary editor of the *Figaro*—in the absence of M. de Villemessant—just announces the return of the last-named gentleman, who has again resumed the duties of the editorship. He also gives notice that M. Alexander Duvernois, the secretary of the editor—a responsible position in the French Press—who left Paris a week ago to conduct his wife and family to a place of safety, has been recalled by telegraph and ordered to return to the duties of his office. In yesterday's *Figaro* M. de Villemessant explains to his readers what course he intends to pursue, as he has hitherto had no opportunity of stating his political principles, being absent for the recovery of his health when the *coup d'état* took place, which deposed the Napoleon dynasty and placed the Provisional Government of the Republic in power. Without compromising his future policy he promises that the *Figaro* shall offer no opposition to the present Government, till the conclusion of the war and expulsion of the hostile army from the soil of France.

M. Mercier de Lostende, hitherto French Ambassador at Madrid, has been recalled by the Republican Government and the appointment given to M. Peyrat, chief editor of *Avenir Nationale*, who, not three months ago, was condemned to a month's imprisonment and payment of a fine of 1000 francs, for publishing the apocryphal proclamation alleged to have been issued by the ex-Emperor in 1848, when he was only Prince Louis Bonaparte.

AVANT COURIER.

TOURS, Sept. 25.

If your regular correspondent, "AVANT COURIER," keep in the same mind as when I last saw him and remain in Paris during the siege, I apprehend that you will have no letter from that capital for your next issue, so, in the view of that eventuality, I send you such scraps of Press news as I can collect amid the horrors of our great national calamity. The newspaper world of Paris is dispersed to the four winds of heaven—we are not cowards that we have fled, but of what use to be shut up in a beleaguered city, cut off from all the news of the world—with few readers—and still worse, no paper to print upon? The *Gaulois*, running short in its supply of that essential, lately begged that the Minister of Public Works would issue a decree making paper "an object of first necessity," and ordering the railways to bring it freely into Paris; but the railways were required to bring in provisions to the full extent of their resources, and latterly, some of the leading journals, even when shorn of their fair proportions, were reduced to grocers' tea paper. Several papers, among them, the *Histoire Public*, *Parlement*, and *Volontaire*, succumbed at an early stage, and ceased to exist. Then came the flight. The Havas Agency made for Tours, and hence followed the *Constitutionnel*, *Pays*, *Français*, *Monde*, *Gazette de France*, *Union*, and *Siccle* (which was first destined for Lyons), so that this is at present the head quarters of French journalism—the *Patrie*, I hear, is at Poitiers—the *France*, at Blois—and the *Temps*, at Bordeaux. But they may all be concentrated here by the time this reaches you. Many of us are reduced to half sheets—the preliminary stage to dissolution.

Galignani's Messenger is suspended under force of circumstances. It was first reduced from four pages to two, with the following notification:—

"We have to claim the indulgence of our subscribers for the diminished form in which the *Messenger* appears to day, but the departure of the greater number of our compositors in consequence of the expected siege of Paris leaves us no alternative."

On the 16th instant, the following announcement appeared:—

"We announce with deep regret to our subscribers that, in consequence of the present interruption of several of the French railways and the impending cessation of communication with the provinces, we are likely to be compelled to suspend, almost immediately, the publication of the *Messenger* until the siege of Paris shall have terminated. The paper will, however, continue to be forwarded to the last possible moment. We shall, of course, take fully into account such periods of subscription as have not expired, and allow for the same when the journal reappears."

Your English subscribers may be assured that *Galignani* will be as good as his word, though it is likely to be a long interval before he appears again, for, under the most favourable issue, what attractions will poor Paris have to offer to English residents or visitors?

M. Duval, the editor of the *Journal des Débats*, was among the killed in the terrible railway collision which occurred near this place the day before yesterday. Our poor comrade has been spared the troubles probably yet in store for us.

Swiss though I am, I am not brave—behold my family for the reason. The peaceful weapon of the Pen with which I have struggled for them is sub-umbraged by the Sword, which is carving out living history on the rock of Time. Let our fellow workers in happy England be sparing of their censures, if we write bitterly of the invading host, who are bringing us to ruin.

PRO RE NATA.

The title of the *Journal Officiel* (formerly the *Moniteur*) was again changed, on the fall of the Empire, to *Le Journal de la République*.

M.M. Paul de Cassagnac and Robert Mitchell, two well-known Parisian journalists, are prisoners with the army of Sedan. They have not been wounded.

TRIUMPHAL ENTRY OF M. ROCHEFORT.—On leaving the Hotel de Ville, says the Paris correspondent of the *Daily News*, I saw in the Avenue Victoria M. Henri Rochefort, let out of prison, as a logical consequence of events, but half an hour before. He was on a triumphal car, and wore a scarlet scarf. He was escorted by an immense mob crying, "Vive Rochefort." He looked in far better health than I expected to see him after his long imprisonment, and his countenance beamed with delight. He has seen

his desire on his enemy. Another correspondent of the same paper writes:—"At eleven this evening Henri Rochefort passed in triumph all along the Boulevards. Soldiers of all arms marched behind him carrying lanterns. Who could have imagined such a scene when the first number of his *Lanterne* came out?"

The Paris musical papers the *Ménestrel*, and the *Musical*, ceased to appear with the stoppage of public entertainments.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, September 26.

In my last letter I informed your readers that in consequence of the wish expressed by the King of Prussia to have a correspondent of the Berlin Press at his head-quarters, a meeting of the representatives of the principal newspapers of that city was convened by the head of the police, Herr von Wurmb, at his office, when the choice fell on Dr. Kayser, one of the editors of the *Spenerische Zeitung* (not Herr Pietsch, as I wrote by mistake). He was received by Count Eulenburg, the Minister of the Interior, who furnished him with the needful credentials and recommended him to join a Cabinet Courier who was to start that evening. He did so, and after a fatiguing journey of four days' railway travelling arrived at the King's head-quarters, where to his great dismay he experienced a very cool reception; nothing was known of his having been sent for, and the fault was conveniently placed to the account of some misunderstanding or mistake of the telegraph operators. It was however intimated to him, that as he had come all the way from Berlin, he might remain at head-quarters, but would be expected to find himself in provisions, lodgings, and means of transport, when the King removed to another place. Under these unpleasant circumstances, and being placed in such a false position, his letters from the seat of war were of course extremely meagre; and in fact the only circumstance of interest that he mentioned was that the King had eighty-one livery servants with him, which he spoke of in such a way as to produce the impression that he envied them being so well dressed, fed, and cared for. On complaining to his colleagues of the treatment he received and want of consideration to which he was exposed, he has now been recalled. He himself does not lay the blame on Count Eulenburg, but rather on Count Bismarck. But I may remark that the latter is by no means an enemy to the institution of the Press; for he has with him no less than three semi-official correspondents—Moritz Busch, Unger Sternberg, and Constantine Rössler—who write under his "inspiration" for the Government organs at Berlin, the *Krenz Zeitung* and the *National Zeitung*, having special permission to print the correspondence as soon as it arrives, and sometimes, therefore, even anticipate the same accounts in the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* and the *Staats-Anzeiger*.

As the German armies proceeded on their advance into French territory, they found the local Press everywhere in a most wretched and unsatisfactory condition, and one of the first cares of the Civil Governors of Alsace and Lorraine, where the language of the inhabitants is entirely German, and French but little understood, was to establish official gazettes. That for Alsatia is called the *Ämtlicher Anzeiger für das Central Gouvernement in Elsass*, and is published for the present at Hagenau, a town containing 12,000 inhabitants, where, however, only one single printing office with four workmen could be found, who with great labour were accustomed to set up a little quarto weekly; whilst in Germany a town of an equal population would support at least two daily papers and half-a-dozen weeklies. The Governor therefore had to telegraph for type, presses, and compositors, and the first number appeared on the 3rd inst. (September). The same difficulties were experienced at Nancy or Nanzig—the latter being the original German name, and now the official nomenclature, of the capital of Lorraine.

On their arrival in Champagne they found that Rheims boasted of two papers, both written in the French language, the *Indépendant Rémois*, supporting Liberal principles, whilst the *Courrier de la Champagne* is a violent Ultramontane party organ. They were both discontinued for a time when the German armies took possession of the city, but at the instance of the Prussian General appeared again in a day or two, and the censorship

of the Press having been abolished, they both warmly support the Republican Government in France and give expression to their patriotic feelings. They have been so systematically kept in darkness that the people had but a very imperfect and confused idea of the real state of affairs, and were not a little surprised to find the Germans marching to Paris, when they innocently had been taught to believe that the French army had taken possession of Berlin, which is popularly supposed by the French generally to be situated on the Rhine. Under the present circumstances the newspapers may print what they like, the only subject strictly prohibited and under control of the officer in command of the German garrison at Rheims being the movement of troops and other military intelligence.

War literature continues to flourish, two more new papers having been started since my last; they come rather late in the day, but have been well received. The first, called *Chronik der Kriegereignisse*, is written by Herr Julius Mühlfeld and published by F. Thiele and Co., at Bielefeld; the latter has taken the title of *Illustrierte Geschichte des Deutsch-Französischen Krieges von 1870*, and is written in a popular manner, and published by Alexander Gigl at Vienna.

Dr. Edgar Baur of Altona announces the appearance on the 1st of October of a "Christian-Political" quarterly, under the name of the *Altona Staats-Zeitung*. S.

ROME.

The *Unita Cattolica* now appears with a black border, and promises not to go out of mourning till the Pope shall have his own again.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, September 16.

Wonderful enterprise and energy have been displayed by the New York Press in getting full information of the desolating war now going on in Europe. Notably, the *New York Tribune* has been most lavish in its telegraphic outlay, and of course takes the German side, its European agent, Mr. Smalley, being indefatigable in his costly efforts to keep it well "posted." The crowning victories of Metz, Gravelotte, and Sedan, were telegraphed in *extenso*, and New York citizens had all the particulars of them almost as soon as you had. On the whole, the reports are fair, the papers contenting themselves with a commentary according to their views, or the tastes of their readers; but the *Journal des États Unis* has fallen into some disgrace by falsifying, colouring, or suppressing telegrams which told against the French cause. Perhaps it was only natural, and in that matter followed the example of the Paris and of some Anglo-French journals which I could name—but it was injudicious.

A new paper is announced, in the Democratic interest, for the 14th of November, to be edited by James E. Harvey, our late minister in Portugal, with O. K. Harris, formerly of the *Republican*, as managing editor. The *Washington Intelligencer*, lately defunct, is to be resuscitated in New York by Alexander Delmar.

The Editors', &c., Association of Maine and New Hampshire held their conference and banquet on the 10th ult., at Portsmouth.

The *Proof Sheet*, of Philadelphia, is publishing a series of exhaustive articles on the history of the Press of Philadelphia, by Eugene H. Munday. Excellent as they are, they would in their integrity be tiresome to English readers, but I will take the liberty of embodying in my letter a few historic facts which they record.

THE FIRST DAILY PAPER.—The *Pennsylvania Packet*, or *General Advertiser*, was first published in November, 1771, by John Dunlop, as a weekly. While the British army was in possession of Philadelphia in 1777-8, it was printed at Lancaster, but shortly after it was removed back, and published semi-weekly—and for a time tri-weekly. On the 21st of September, 1784, it was converted into a daily, and was the first daily paper printed in America. It subsequently changed its name to the *American Daily Advertiser*, and, on December 28th, 1839, with a circulation attenuated down to three hundred, was merged into the *North American*.

Dr. BIRD is a name well-known in England as the author of

"Peter Pilgrim," "Nick of the Woods," "The Hawks of Hawk Hollow," and other romances. Robert Montgomery Bird is more generally known in America as a distinguished physician, who held the chair of *Materia Medica* at Pennsylvania College for the brief period of its existence, and was also author of the tragedies of "The Gladiator," and the "Broker of Bogata," which Edwin Forrest made popular by his impersonations of the characters of Spartacus and Baptisto Febro. Dr. Bird was for some years chief proprietor and "miscellaneous" editor of the *North American*. He was born at Newcastle, Delaware, in 1805, and died 23rd January, 1854. Associated with him on the *North American*, was Robert T. Conrad, eminent alike as jurist, poet, dramatist, and orator, as political editor.

THE PILOT BOAT "ROVER" was run as an express across the Atlantic at the joint expense of the *New York Tribune* and the Philadelphia *North American* in 1845, and beat the regular packet by several days.

THE "SATURDAY EVENING POST" has numbered among its contributors many names familiar to English ears—G. P. B. James, Mary Howitt, Mrs. Henry Wood, author of "East Lynne," &c. &c. In its first office stood the press of Benjamin Franklin—the *Vera Cruz*—and over the door of the composing-room were the lines:

"All you who come this curious art to see,
To handle anything must cautious be,
Lest, by a touch, ere you are aware,
That mischief may be done you can't repair.
Lo! this advice we give to every stranger:
Look on and welcome—but to touch there's danger."

I have just heard that Mr. H. A. Delille, the respected agent in Paris of our Associated Press, was recently mistaken for a Prussian spy, and had a narrow escape of his life.

Another new paper, it is rumoured, is shortly to be started in New York. It is to be called the *Free Press*.

A new weekly paper was started at Brattleboro', N. C., on or about September 1st. It will be published by a joint stock company, and edited by Cicero W. Harris, formerly of the *Henderson Index*. JEFFERSON BRICK.

There is a paper in America called the *Advent Times*. The proprietor or publisher seems to be a sharp man of business, and by no means indifferent to the success of his publication. He has recently presented his readers with a small supplement containing a little piece of music, the chorus of which is—

"He's coming, coming, coming soon, I know,
Coming back to this earth again;
And the weary pilgrims will go to glory
When the Saviour comes to reign."

But the beauty of the thing is that, printed on the same side as the music, we find the following:—"Dear Friend,—We present you with this number a sheet of music, hoping you may be gratified with it. And now allow us to enquire if you are doing what you can for our weekly paper? It has cost much toil, labour, and sacrifice to bring it to its present position of usefulness in the West and elsewhere. It needs your sympathy and support. *Are you paid in advance? If not, please see that you are.* Have you ever procured a new subscriber? If not, will you endeavour to do so? In this way you can materially aid the cause we are endeavouring to build up. Do not fail to act promptly." It seems to us that the query and suggestion we have taken the liberty of reprinting in italics are uncommonly rich. We would also suggest to the editor that upon his again venturing on a similar enquiry it would be better English if he asks—"Have you paid in advance?" Perhaps he will pardon us if we venture to inform him that in the old country that is the way in which the question would be put. "Are you paid in advance?" is slightly ambiguous.—*Literary World*.

The *San Francisco Press* recently gave the following personal details:—"James Gordon Bennett, who began the *Herald* with 200 dols. or 300 dols. borrowed money, in Ann-street cellar, writing on a board, is now worth 5,000,000 dols.—Manton Marble, who, ten years ago, was a task writer on the *Evening Post* at 25 dols. a week, is at present sole owner of the *World*, valued at least at 500,000 dols., and has an income of 75,000 dols. a year.—Henry J. Raymond, at the time of his death, was worth 300,000 dols., and made every cent of it out of the *Times*.—Horace

Greeley, with all his carelessness of, and indifference to money, could be sold out for 150,000 dols., though he made his entry in the metropolis a poor printer's boy, with all his fortune in a small bundle of clothes swung on a stick.—James and Erastus Brooks have estates valued at more than 150,000 dols. each, all made from their earnings as owners of the *Express*.—Robert Bonner, not long since a printer at the case, making with very hard work 30 dols. a week, boasts of possessing 200,000 dols. worth of horses, has an annual income from the *Ledger* of nearly 100,000 dols., and would not sell his popular weekly for 1,000,000 dols.—Henry C. Bowen, after failing as a merchant, turned his attention to the management of the *Independent*, and realises 90,000 dols. to 100,000 dols. a year from it."

It is maintained, as an evidence of Mormon progress, that the *Deseret News* has been printed from types cast in Salt Lake, upon paper made in the same city.

An interesting little newspaper war is going on in Boston. The *Daily News*, started some time ago, in the avowed interest of the Prohibitionists, has accused the *Congregationalist* of advertising in its columns a "liquor store, doing business in open violation of the law." The religious sheet responds that the advertisement referred to is that of "a respectable firm, who make a specialty of selling pure communion wine." And the *Congregationalist* further says that "Brother Marvin," the temperance editor of the *News*, not only is guilty of advertising establishments where the contraband fluids are sold over an open bar, but even, in spite of his profession, "enjoys some of the good things" himself. The *Lowell Courier* pertinently enquires:—"Isn't there a hole in both these gentlemen's coats?"—Frederick Douglas has determined to devote himself to editing the *New Era*, and announces that he will retire from the lecture field.—The speeches, &c., of the last session made seven volumes of the *Congressional Globe*, and one of the volumes is wholly made up of speeches that were never delivered.

MEXICO.

Juarez, the cold blooded murderer of the Emperor Maximilian, is now doing his best to smother the Press, by the arrest of all editors with whose writings he does not agree.

AUSTRALIA.

The proprietors of the *Australasian*, it is stated, have purchased the exclusive right of publication of this work in Australia. The first portion was to appear in that paper on the 16th of July.

Law Intelligence.

MANSON HOUSE.—SEPTEMBER 12.

MR. CORNELIUS WALFORD, a member of the bar, charged with publishing a libel concerning Mr. Forwood, of Liverpool, an underwriter, with respect to a reinsurance of the ship *Venezuelan*, and who has been several times before the Lord Mayor, was this day committed for trial.

The alleged libel purported to be a comment upon a recent investigation by a committee of Lloyd's of the circumstances under which the prosecutor, Mr. Forwood, and Mr. Ross, his representative there, had reinsured the steam ship *Venezuelan*, belonging to the company of which Mr. Forwood is the managing director, for 2000*l.* at 50 per cent. In April last, while on a voyage from Liverpool to Barbadoes, and imputed fraud to them in connection with the transaction, using for that purpose some very strong language, though not mentioning them by name.

On receiving the usual caution, Mr. Walford said all he had to state was that he believed at the time every word he wrote to be true.

The Lord Mayor said he would have to persuade a jury of that.

The Bench decided upon sending the defendant for trial, and he stood committed accordingly to the Central Criminal Court, but was admitted to bail in the meantime, himself in 500*l.*, and two sureties in 250*l.* each.

WORSHIP STREET.—SEPTEMBER 14.

Thomas Turner, proprietor of the *Bethnal-green Times*, was charged before Mr. Ellison with having published a certain wilful and defamatory libel against Siegfried Simon, leather-merchant, of 29, Falcon-square.

Mr. Montague Williams, instructed by Mr. Mortimore of Cannon-street, conducted the prosecution.

Mr. Montague Williams said, before proceeding to open the case, he wished to call the magistrate's attention to a letter written by the defendant to his client since the summons had been taken out. It was as follows:—

Office of the *Bethnal-green Times*, Bethnal Green Road, 6th September, 1870.

SIR,—Respecting our reports of the public meeting of the shoe trade, I beg to say that upon the receipt of a letter stating that you felt annoyed by what had been said, I ordered my reporter if any more meetings were held on the subject to be specially careful that nothing personal to yourself and others be transferred to our Columns. I left London a few days afterwards for a short stay at the sea-side, and knew nothing further of the matter until your summons were issued. I can only say that if in my absence anything has been reported you deem to be unfair or injurious to yourself, I am extremely sorry and will gladly publish any explanation or counter-statement you may desire. I sent my reporter to you personally yesterday to assure you of my entire ignorance of the affair.

Trusting you are convinced of this, and that all unfriendly feelings will cease,—I am Sir,

Yours respectfully,

T. TURNER.

He (Mr. Williams) had thought, as the defendant was not represented by counsel, it was only fair to read that letter to the bench before stating the terms of the libel. Whether the defendant was absent or not he was bound to have some responsible person to attend to his business in his absence, and in law was of course legally liable for anything that was published. Mr. Simon, however, desired more to punish those persons who contributed to the illegal meetings money, and other assistance, than the defendant, if he really got the news from a proper source, and did not publish it maliciously and wilfully. He had therefore advised his client, that if the defendant would publicly state his regret at what had been written, and undertake to insert an apology in his next issue, to apply to have the summons stand over to another week, but at the same time, he wished it to be clearly understood that he did not withdraw any proceedings until the apology had been inserted. If that course was adopted, he thought that his client's character would have been vindicated.

The defendant said he regretted having published anything that had injured Mr. Simon, and that he was open to publish any counter statement that the solicitor for the prosecution might think proper to draw up.

Mr. Ellison.—There is considerable distinction between a counter statement and an apology.

The defendant.—If I publish the letter which has been read, will that do?

Mr. Williams.—Yes.

Mr. Ellison then consented to an adjournment, when a summons against the proprietor of another local paper is set down for hearing.

BANKRUPTCY COURT.—SEPTEMBER 19.

(Before Mr. Registrar ROCHE.)

IN RE FUCH—THE "HERMANN" NEWSPAPER.

A first meeting was held under the failure of Dr. Ernest Fuch, formerly proprietor of the *Hermann*, a German journal, published in Crane-court, Fleet-street. The adjudication was obtained upon the petition of Messrs. Austin, Wood, and Co., letter founders, of 11 and 12, Parkfield-street, Islington, and the bankrupt has surrendered.

The debts may be estimated at 1400*l.* Numerous proofs were put forward, and Mr. B. E. Daniels, accountant, of the Poultry, was appointed trustee.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. ROBERT HARTFORD.

We have to record with deep regret the early death of a gentleman, who has for some years past been connected with the *Standard*, Mr. Robert Hartford. A scholar of ability and promise at Trinity College, Dublin, Mr. Hartford, on leaving the university, at once devoted himself to journalism, and in Dublin earned a reputation which readily procured him a good position on the London Press. Unhappily the seeds of consumption, planted years ago, prevented his realising the brilliant promise of his earlier days, and notwithstanding every effort to arrest the progress of the disease by repeated changes of climate and skilful medical treatment, he gradually sank, and died, after a lingering illness, on the 30th of August, to the regret of his colleagues and a large circle of friends.

MR. BOLTON CORNEY.

Although not in the full sense a member of the Press, Mr. Bolton Corney, whose death we record to-day, was for so many years a contributor to *Notes and Queries*, and other periodical publications, as to be entitled to more than a line in our Obituary. At the time of his death he was in his eighty-seventh year. From first to last he was a constant correspondent of *Notes and Queries*;

he also edited Dalrymple's "Essay on Gardening," Thomson's "Seasons" (with illustrations by the Etching Club), Goldsmith's "Poetical Works" (with a memoir), Locke's treatise "On the Understanding," and (for the Hackluyt Society) "The Voyage of Sir Henry Middleton to Bantam." He also published illustrations to I. D'Israeli's "Curiosities of Literature," and printed, for private circulation, several antiquarian pamphlets, "On the Bayeux Tapestry," on "The Sonnets of Shakspeare," "The Birthday of Shakspeare," &c. He was also one of the auditors of the Literary Fund.

M. GUSTAV STRUVE.

Gustav Struve, whose death is recorded in the Obituary, was a well-known public character in Germany and one of the principal agitators for a Republic. He was born at Munich, and after studying law at that university, entered the service of Oldenburg, and was for some time secretary of the embassy at Frankfort. He then established himself as a lawyer in that city and founded the *Mannheim Journal*, his free writings in which brought him in more imprisonment than money, and he then founded a new journal called the *Deutscher Zuschauer*. When the revolution of 1848 broke out, he placed himself at its head in Baden for which he had to suffer five years' solitary confinement. When released from prison he emigrated to the United States, and after six years' residence there returned to Germany in 1863, and resided till his death at Stuttgart.

Home Subjects.

ENGLISH NEWS FOR GERMANY.—Almost all the German papers get their English news from the lithographic sheet published in London by Dr. Max Schlesinger.

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.—Mr. John Byrne, jun., has been elected to the secretaryship of the Newspaper Press Fund, rendered vacant by the resignation of Mr. Taunton. There were 100 applicants for the post.

MR. SYDNEY HALL, the artist for the *Graphic* who accompanied the French army of the Rhine, has again been heard of. He disappeared for some time, and there was subsequently a report that he was captured by the Prussians as a spy. He has now written from Nancy announcing his release, and that during his detention he was very well treated by his captors. He will henceforth accompany the Prussian army in the capacity of artist.

THE LATE FRIENDLY SOCIETY OF DEALERS IN NEWSPAPERS.—The members and friends of the above society held a dinner on Tuesday at Freemasons' Tavern, for the purpose of presenting a service of plate to H. J. Standfast, Esq., late of the firm of Brown and Standfast, Westminster, as a mark of respect for him as hon. treasurer for many years, and in recognition of his valuable services in terminating the affairs of the society on its dissolution. Mr. T. Miles, on behalf of the members, presented the testimonial, and the proceedings of the evening were very pleasingly enlivened by the vocal and instrumental exertions of some of the company.

THE "GLOBE."—There has been a whisper of the probability of the *Globe* becoming a halfpenny paper.

A NEW LIGHT.—A twopenny journal has been started by Mr. Hampden, of Swindon, under the title of the *Armourer*. As the name does not afford any very distinct clue to the mission of the new comer, we may add that its objects are to prove that the earth is not a sphere but a plane—that Galileo, Sir Isaac Newton, &c., were all wrong—that the sun is only 800 miles from the earth, &c., &c.

THE HALFPENNY POSTAGE STAMPS.—Most of our readers have, doubtless, seen the new stamps issued by the Post Office for transmission of newspapers throughout the United Kingdom. The adhesive halfpenny newspaper stamp is considerably smaller than the ordinary penny postage stamp, and bears a somewhat ineffectively engraved medallion. For general purposes, newspaper wrappers, ready gummed for use, and bearing an oblong shaped stamp in green, have been prepared, and these will be sold in packets of 100 for 4s. 6d. By the public these will be doubtless used in preference to the small adhesive stamps.

A NEW WEEKLY twelve page paper, entitled the *Federalist*, price one penny, appeared in Dublin on the 17th ult. It is of the Nationalist type, but not so pronounced as its predecessors in the field. It advocates the new theory of home government and a federal parliament. The heading is adorned with a representation of the Houses of Parliament in Dublin, with the motto "It was, and It shall be."

ATTACKS UPON THE PRESS IN IRELAND.—The anti-Prussian feeling in Dublin manifested itself lately in the breaking of the windows of two of the newspaper offices by the mob. The roughs, not a very numerous body, first attacked the office of *Saunders's News Letter*, and broke several panes of glass. They then proceeded to the *Mail* office, and wreaked their vengeance in a similar manner.

NEW ANGLO-BRAZILIAN PAPER.—A new illustrated weekly newspaper, of a very high class, has just appeared. The *Anglo-Braziliana*, published at 148, Strand, is intended for circulation mainly in Brazil, and throughout South America, in Portugal, Madeira, the Azores, Goa, and other Portuguese settlements. It is edited by an American, of Portuguese descent, well known in the Army and Civil Service of the United States. A *resumé* of the news of the week is in English, but the remainder in the Portuguese language, and the illustrations are in the highest style of art.

MR. ALFRED SYLVESTER has been appointed editor of *Berrow's Worcester Journal*. Mr. Sylvester held a lucrative post on the Government organ of Canada, and was afterwards proprietor of a newspaper in that province—the *Ontario Observer*—until the severity of the climate obliged him to return to England. He has since been more especially known in connection with the Plymouth and Suffolk Press.

THE *Daily Mail* is the name of a new halfpenny midday paper, announced to appear in Birmingham on the 7th instant.

THANKS TO MR. MACKIE!—By great exertions and with much trouble Mr. Mackie, of the *Warrington Guardian*, has got rid in the new Post Office Act of the clause requiring all newspapers to have their full title printed on each page. A friendly M.P. put an amendment on the notice paper, which, at the very last, Government accepted, requiring the full title to be on the first page only. The annoyance to offices where more than one edition is issued, and these under different names, must necessarily have been very great.

PUBLIC IMPATIENCE FOR NEWS.—Journalism tends more and more towards the daily, the weeklies being useless as purveyors of news, except for communities not sufficiently numerous or powerful to support a daily organ; but the tendency is for weeklies to become reviews, and to do the work which monthlies formerly did. This is due to the quicker rate at which we live, whereby a metropolis is not content with daily papers, but must have journals appearing at intervals, every hour bringing out a fresh issue. A week is now comparatively a long period, and a month is oblivion, hence the growing tendency towards the daily, which is absorbing all newspaper power. —*Anglo-American Times*.

THE "MORNING ADVERTISER."—It is reported that, in consequence of a difference of opinion between Mr. James Grant and the committee of management, that gentleman has withdrawn from the editorship.

THE "BARROW TIMES."—On the 12th ult., the staff of the *Barrow Times* of Furness, to the number of twenty-nine, had their annual "outing" by an excursion to Bowness, under the lead of Mr. Richardson, the proprietor, and Mr. Leach, B.A., the editor. Songs were sung, speeches made, and a very enjoyable day passed.

A "TIMES" CORRESPONDENT SHOT.—Dr. Russell, of the *Times*, in a letter dated Donchery, September 3rd, announces the death of Lieut.-Colonel Christopher P. Pemberton, late of the Scots Fusilier Guards, who was shot at the battle of Sedan:—"As I am writing this there comes news which I hope is not true. It is of the loss of a friend, of one who eagerly pressed to be employed in your service, and who has in that service lost his life in the field. I can scarcely proceed. Perhaps, before these lines reach you, the telegraph will have broken the intelligence to those to whom the blow will be terrible. My last words to him were to warn him that he was not to seek danger, and that in the capacity in which he was then engaged it was his bounden duty not to run risks. It is now five o'clock, and Colonel Walker, in reply to an enquiry, caused by a rumour I had heard, has written to say that the Crown Prince of Saxony informed him the *Times* correspondent, Lieut.-Colonel Pemberton, was killed by his side during the battle by a bullet. I am so shocked and grieved, as will also be as many friends as a young man ever had when they hear it, by this news, that only a sense of duty impels me to continue my narrative. Had he fallen for his country in battle it would have been some consolation to those he has left to mourn his fate. Cheerful, witty, full of life, spirit, and talent, he has met the death he, above all deaths, would have desired—a soldier's. 'Kit Pemberton dead!' I fancy how these words will fly through many an English home. I have written to the Crown Prince of Saxony, and will try to have his resting-place properly marked, or obtain some clue to its locality. But headquarters move on to-morrow, and the place, now deserted by the army, where he fell, is many miles away."

"BLARNEY."—We have received the first No. of this new Dublin comic paper. It contains sixteen pages, but only one illustration. It appears in point of merit to deserve a place between *Zozimus* and the *Knight Errant*. The price is twopence.

PROVINCIAL NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE.—The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* of the 16th ult., contained a special telegram, nearly a column in length, from Canada, reporting the particulars of the great Anglo-Canadian boat race by the St. John's crew (Canadian) and the Tyne crew (English) on the waters of the St. Lawrence.

MR. HOWARD GLOVER, formerly of the *Morning Post*, and well known in London musical and literary circles, is about to publish his "Recollections," or "Twenty Years on the London Press."

MR. EDWARD LEGGE, lately sub-editor of the *Illustrated Midland News*, was at the battle of Sedan. He has not been heard of since, but is believed to be at the Prussian head-quarters.

AMERICAN PROVINCIAL PAPERS.—The journals of the principal cities outside of New York form a favourable contrast to the provincial journals in Europe. Boston and Philadelphia are noted for some of the best of American papers, whose circulation extends to parts of the country far remote from the place of publication. Of these, the *Advertiser*, *Transcript* (edited by the essayist Whipple), *Traveller*, and *Post* of Boston, and the *Public Ledger*, *Press*, and *North American* of Philadelphia, are perhaps the best known and esteemed. Even some of the towns of third-rate importance as to population and business produce newspapers of a national reputation, rivaling in the excellence of their editorial management those of the larger cities.

Obituary.

CORNEY, BOLTON, one of the earliest contributors to *Notes and Queries*, in his 87th year.

DUVAL, —, editor of the *Journal des Débats*, in a railway accident at Tours, September 20th.

DYOTT, WM. H., editor and proprietor of the *New Rochelle* (N. Y.) *Pioneer*, August 21st.

GORDON, A. L., a well-known Australian writer, at Melbourne, Victoria.

HARTFORD, ROBERT, on the staff of the *Standard*, of consumption.

PEMBERTON, LIEUT.-COLONEL CHRISTOPHER P., war correspondent of the *Times*, with the Prussian army, killed at the Battle of Sedan.

RANDALL, A. E., editor of the *St. Louis Times* from its commencement, and connected with the Press of Missouri and Iowa, at St. Louis, August 2nd, aged 34.

STRUYE, GUSTAV, founder and editor of the *Mannheim Journal*, and the *Deutscher Zuschauer*, at Stuttgart, aged 66.

TSCHUDI, CHRISTOPH ZOLLIKOFER, editor and proprietor of the *St. Gallen Tagblatt*, at St. Gallen, aged 70.

WALSTAB, HENRY, for many years a contributor to the *Australian Journal* under the pseudonym of "Hal," accidentally drowned at Brighton, near Melbourne.

WIGAND, OTTO, editor and publisher of the *Halleische Jahrbücher*, at Leipzig, aged 75.

Notes and Queries.

THE LOSS OF THE CITY OF BOSTON; *Inman v. Jenkins*.—We are favoured with the shorthand reports, extending to 85 pages, of this trial for libel, but it was scarcely a "newspaper" case in the strict sense of the word. Possibly our contributor on the "Law of Libel" may have to deal with it in the course of his series of papers, and in his hands we have placed it.

J. S. O.—An article on "The Anglo-Jewish Press," is in good hands for a future No.

E. M.—Have nothing to do with them. They are swindlers, and dare not show their faces in the office of a London paper.

"IN DANGER."—We do not commiserate you. You should have paid a fair price to a respectable man. Five-shilling letters often lead to actions, if not to criminal information. What else could you expect?

BANKRUPT.

WHITEHEAD, HENRY, 16, Park Road, Haverstock Hill, newspaper manager.

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A thick volume of newspapers, consisting of the *Observer*, the *Dispatch*, *Blagdon's Weekly Chronicle*, the *Phoenix*, and others all for the years 1809 and 1810, contains the Covent Garden Riots, Trial and Commitment of Sir Francis Burdet to the Tower, and all the Stirring News of that eventful Period, one thick volume, folio, half-calf, 1809—1810 25s

The *News*, a Weekly Newspaper for the Years 1815 and 1816, containing the Stirring important News of that very interesting War Period, also the Fires, Races, Prize-Fights, Murders, Executions, Battle of Waterloo, &c., thick folio, half-calf, 1815—1816 25s

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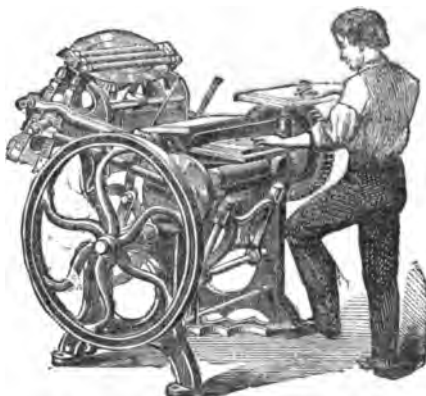
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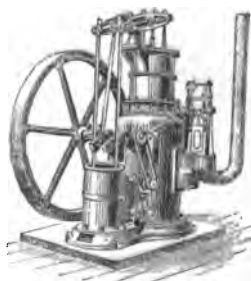
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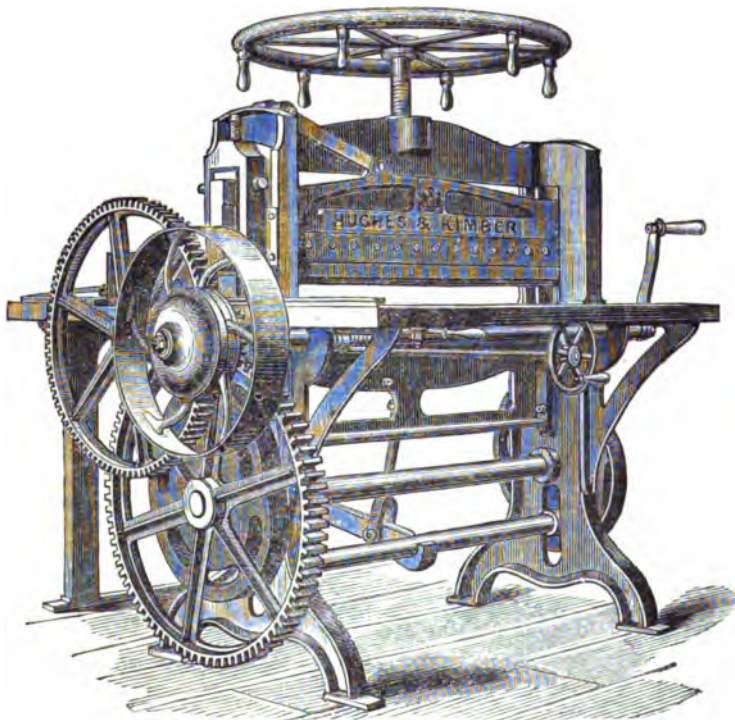
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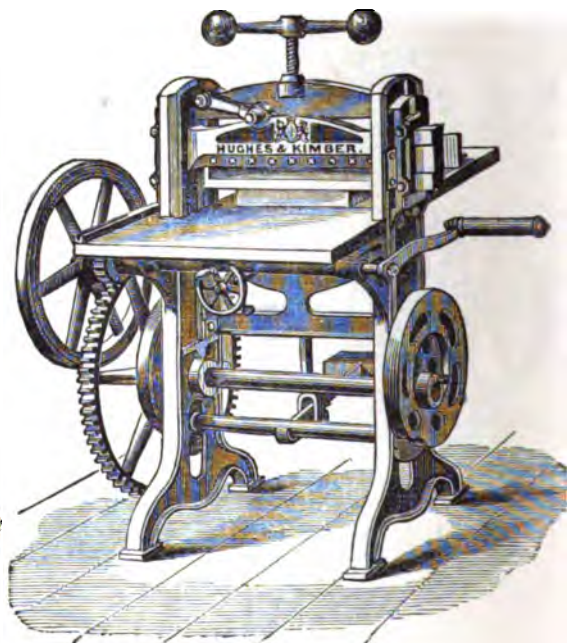
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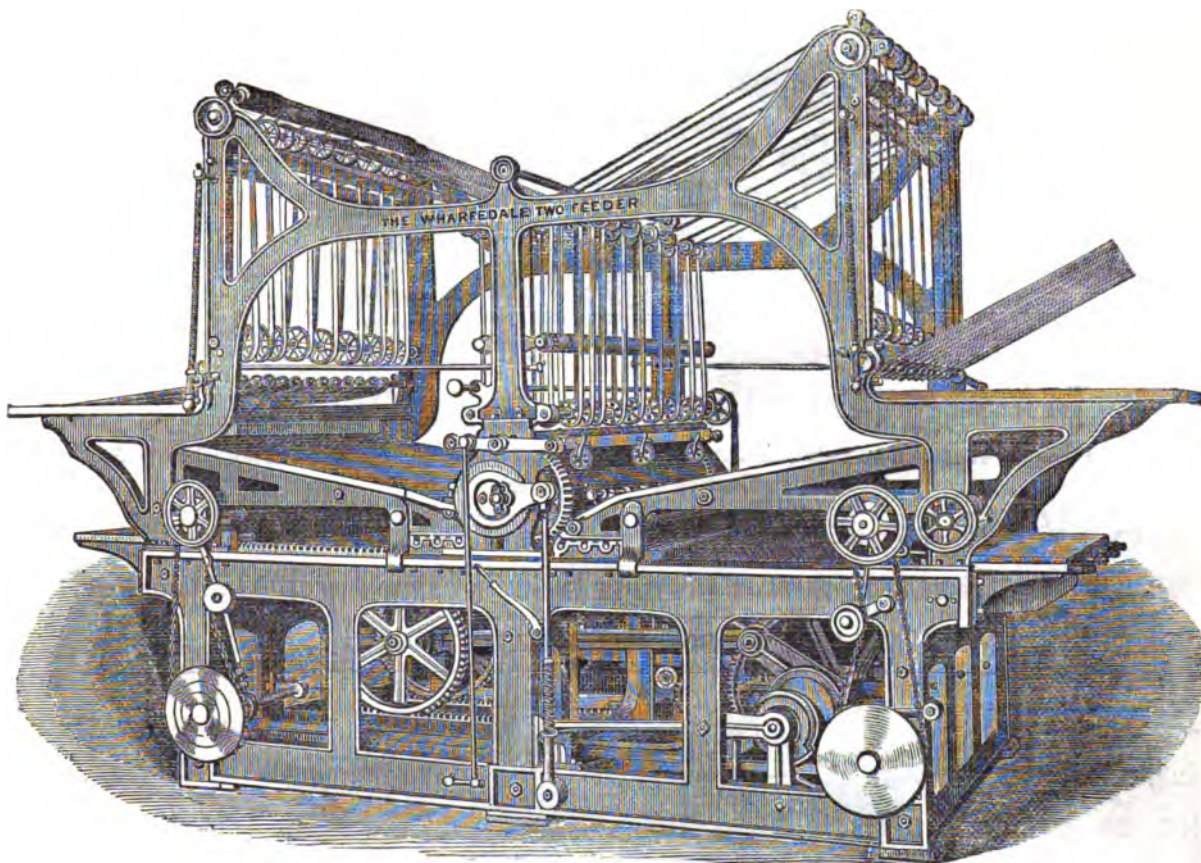
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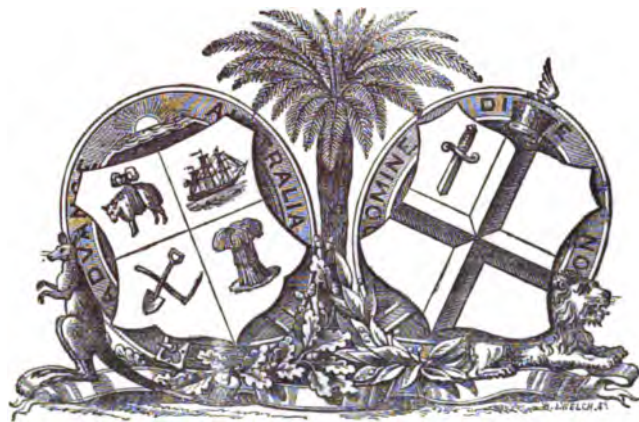
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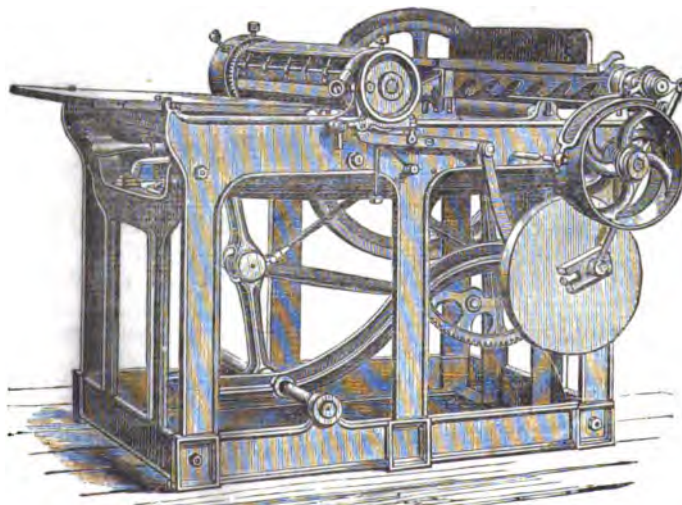
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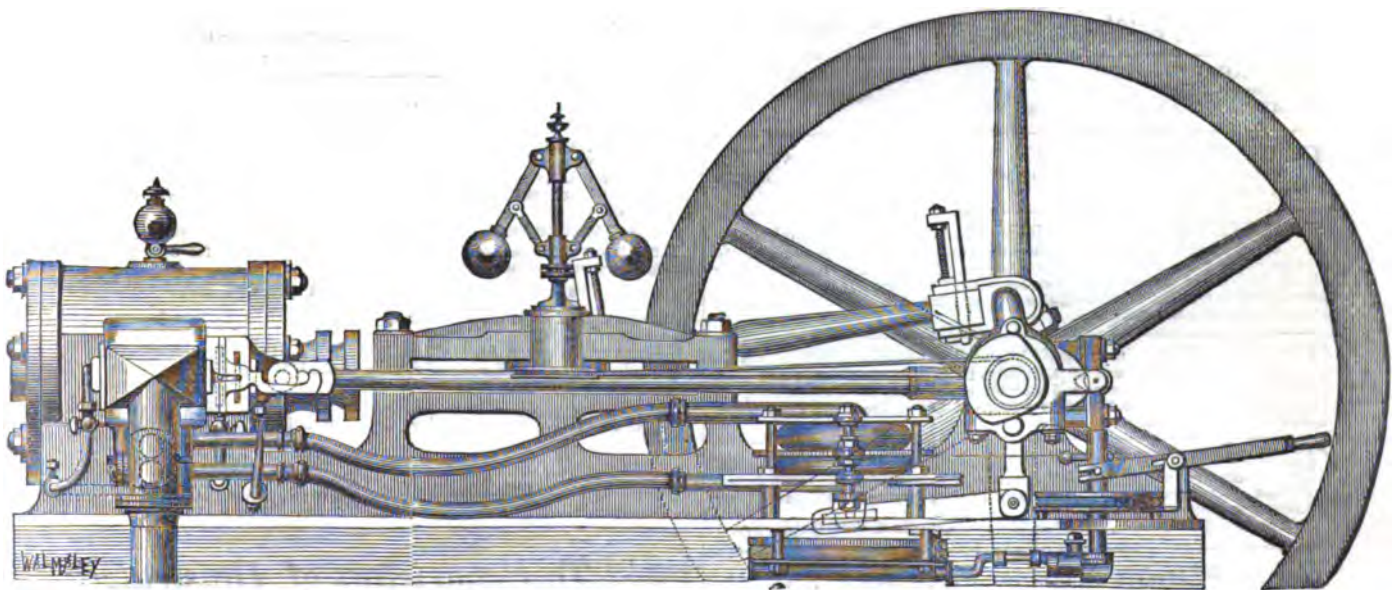
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THE postal alterations as regarded newspapers and periodical publications, coming in force, as they unfortunately did, on the first of the month, caused, as we predicted in our last leading article, some confusion. That has been got over now, and matters have settled down into smooth working.

But it is necessary that we of the NEWSPAPER PRESS should explain what effect the new regulations have upon us. It is soon done. Simply, this paper is entirely unaffected by them. Being published at longer intervals than the law allows for newspapers, we have none of the benefits of the halfpenny postage, whilst, exceeding in weight the prescribed two ounces, we do not participate in the reduced scale for book postage. We are simply *in statu quo*, even as regards the "registration for transmission abroad," the privilege of which is still accorded to us by the Post Office authorities, so that in this great revolution, which has floated some publications and stranded others, the NEWSPAPER PRESS stands firmly "as it was."

The question *was* discussed by the *illuminati* of St. Martin's le Grand, whether it was a newspaper in the sense of being entitled to the registration for transmission abroad: the Solons of the department wagged their heads and doubted whether news of Press movements at home, in our colonies, and abroad, *was* news; but wiser counsels prevailed, and, making a sacrifice to their stolidity of heaps of monthly publications, they graciously—though not gracefully—admitted the NEWSPAPER PRESS into their list.

It was considerate and kind of them perhaps—wise, no doubt, for we might have cut a way through the difficulties for ourselves—and others.

We do not know what has become of Mr. Eyre who organised a halfpenny delivery service for London, and, like all projectors of great public benefits, was a martyr to the cause—persecuted, informed against and ruined—but, wherever he is, he deserves the thanks of the community for having forced this great change upon "the authorities."

THE agitation which has commenced in a section of the Press world with respect to the Provincial Newspaper Society, has reopened up the question of a Press club. Some four or five years ago, when the subscription to the P. N. S. was increased, the subject was anxiously and earnestly debated by the members. It was urged that the members of the newspaper Press at large were far more likely to join a social club than a mixed, and, to say the best of it, a narrow institution like the P. N. S.

It is obvious that the proposal of a Press club must fall through if left unaided by the great mass of those employed by the Press. The three hundred members of the P. N. S. would hardly be able to support the skeleton of such an institution, even if they doubled or trebled their subscriptions. At least half of the total thirteen hundred newspaper proprietors would not care to spend money on a project from which they would derive only a shadowy benefit, in consequence of their distance from and unfrequent visits to town. Such an association would have to depend on the remaining seven hundred newspapers, their proprietors and employes—a total probably of two thousand individuals, the majority of whom visit London only twice or thrice in the course of a year. A club, therefore, in the broad acceptance of the term, is out of the question. On the other hand, the acquisition of so large a number of visiting members must be an object of some importance to existing clubs having in some measure kindred pursuits, who, in return for a yearly subscription, would give the wandering fraternity from the country a house of call when in town. The want of this is much felt.

If this, or some similar project could be accomplished, it would give a stimulus to the "Press Fund," which it much requires and well deserves. It would rally round it that large rank and file of country Press men who now hold aloof, simply because they know no one connected with the fund, and hardly any one connected with the Press in London, save by name. It would be very different if they had an opportunity of even meeting one another when in town, for then they would have an assurance, which they certainly now require, that their interests in the hour of need would not be overlooked, or neglected in favour of a better known London fellow worker in distress.

A gentleman, who has been actively connected with the provincial Press during a generation, informs us that his experience amongst his class confirms these views. For the past three or four years there has been a great improvement in the class of recruits which the country papers have received on to their respective staffs. There will always be some who will hang on the skirts of partly printed papers in country towns, whose character and position tend to lower the standard of Press men in the provinces, but, on the other hand, we know that the London Press is largely reinforced by the more ambitious and talented of the country editors and reporters, who at once become isolated from their old companions of the pen and pencil.

There has been an exhibition—a slight soupçon—of jealousy shown on more than one occasion by the P. N. S., towards the papers struggling into existence, or trying to maintain a competition against older papers. Perhaps it will always be so. Newspaper proprietors are but men, and commercial men, looking after their interests. This feeling need not interfere with the management of a club on a broader basis, and we throw out these hints for the benefit of the members of the P. N. S., and the Press men generally, to discuss during the long vacation, if the war allows them any vacation at all.

THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PRESS.

XI.—THE DRAMATIC AND ART CRITICS.

THE expansion of the power and scope of the Press, and the extension of education amongst the readers of newspapers, has necessitated the addition of certain special auxiliaries to the rank and file of the Press. Within the memory of many veterans of the Press yet in harness, neither the art critic nor the dramatic censor existed as a separate and individual type out of London attached to the staff of a newspaper. We know that there was a highly-educated dramatic coterie in every large town, whose opinion carried weight, and whose good word the best actors valued. With their approval each ambitious Thespian felt sure of metropolitan success. The newspapers took their tone from these self-elected critics, whose opinion was of far more value than the individual judgment of any single man, suddenly called on to pass an opinion on a new drama or a new actor for the first time, unless there has been a long and special training for the purpose. Even under the most favourable circumstances, the highest genius may pass unnoticed or be condemned, because a few hastily applied general rules are violated, and the face of nature and the workings of passion are represented under a new aspect. In the metropolis the critics could hardly be considered ordinary members of the rank and file of the Press. They were irregular auxiliaries, who could be found when wanted, and always could be relied on.

Their office could not have been a pleasant one in the generation preceding the Regency, and even in a later period. The "cant of criticism" was the theme of many a biting philippic. The dilettanti, cognoscenti, and connoisseurs of the day, were the butt of many a keen shaft of wit sent forth from the bosom of a disappointed or a neglected aspirant for dramatic, artistic, or literary fame. Then, as now, motives were attributed to every writer who presumed to call in question the merits of any person's productions. Praise was universally accepted as simple justice; censure, as the offspring of personal malice, or of base malignity. The specimens which have come down to us show that the censure was sharply administered in the old-fashioned cut and thrust style, and there is but little reason to wonder that the retort was not courteous but extremely bitter.

The task which the dramatic critic has to perform is always a delicate one, and at times must verge on the disagreeable. He is personally known, as a rule, both to the author as well as to the actor, and if he condemns the piece of the one or the acting of the other, he is liable to be personally attacked and his judgment impugned. The multiplicity of critics, each with diverse standards of excellence, has done something to modify severity of tone, if not to raise the art from a mere expression of cultivated opinion, to the higher realms of æsthetic principles, and to a true and common standard of perfection to which all must agree and bow.

The complaints which are made with respect to dramatic critics are many. It is urged that they are frequently dramatic authors themselves, and their judgment is tarnished by professional jealousy or dwarfed by a mere personal feeling. This may be true in some instances, but it is inseparable from the artificial regulations of modern society. That they act on the mutual admiration principle, or have a common understanding that lavish praise is to be returned in due season in the same coin, no one believes who has watched the notices which have appeared. Such a system would speedily break down, and the critics be "hoisted by their own petard."

The art critic is free from this reproach. He is seldom a painter. He has more definite principles to guide him. The rules of art, if not all defined, are sufficiently broad and distinctive to guide him on a general path. And it is presumed that he is acquainted, not only with these principles, but with the laws of harmony of colour, and that his eye is educated to note the proportions of the human figure, its natural pose and action. Beyond all this, there is taste, judgment, and feeling required, and these vary in every individual. Hence, artists of merit will always find admirers, and works of true genius are speedily welcomed and find a place in art annals, if the art critic does his work ably and conscientiously. In these days of monster exhi-

bitions, the work expected of him is too great. It is impossible for him calmly to weigh the individual merits of some 1000 or 2000 pictures. Some of them must be slighted, even if all are mentioned, and if the best are chosen for notice, very many excellent works must be passed without a word if the artist is unknown.

To the provincial editor or reporter an exhibition of pictures is a *bête noir*, unless he happens to have some special knowledge of the subject, or has an artistic friend to help him. Generally speaking, provincial art notices are either vague generalities or lavish of praise. Of course, Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool, and other art centres, possess as fine a judgment, and as liberal a taste, as the metropolis, and the criticisms that appear therein are frank, general, and, as a rule, broad and correct.

In the not distant future the public will demand this cultivated critical judgment to a greater extent than heretofore. The pressure of modern life is such that the majority of mankind have but little time to acquire special knowledge of the manifold subjects which form the fringe of life, and hence they will pay for that knowledge to a greater extent than they now do in the world of art. But in the dramatic and musical world it is very different.

The critic in the one case cannot guide the public taste or show its depravity. He may point out the violations of morality, the abuse of dramatic rules, and the absurd burlesque of true art. But the public are their own judges, and in these matters are rather given to support their own favourite. This renders the critic's position difficult, but if his higher judgment is seconded by the efforts of manager, author, and actor, the taste of the people may be improved without remaining on the dull level of moral mediocrity, or plunging into sensational improbabilities.

The musical critic lives in a world of his own. Every journal has some one attached to it who possesses a little musical taste, and can give a fair opinion on any performance, save, perhaps, the very highest efforts of musical genius. They may not have the subtlety of ear, or the cultivated art which is necessary to judge the greatest works, or the most famous singers, but a little knowledge of music is far more generally spread than the knowledge of art, notwithstanding the efforts of the science and art department of South Kensington, and the operations of the schools of art and design throughout the country.

Every few months an attack is made on the critics now as of old, and though not couched, perhaps, in as strong language as of yore, it shows the prevalence of the jealous feeling which prompted Byron to write—

"A man must serve his time to ev'ry trade,
Save censure; critics all are ready made."

There are, however, many who agree with Lord Shaftesbury. "I take upon me," said the noble lord, "absolutely to condemn the fashionable and prevailing custom of inveighing against critics as the common enemies, the pests, and incendiaries of the commonwealth of art and letters. I assert, on the contrary, that they are the props and pillars of the building; and that without the encouragement and propagation of such a race, we should remain as Gothic architects as ever." Success, then, to the gay science and its votaries, but may their pens be dipped in milk instead of gall.

THE PARIS CORRESPONDENTS.—Have any means been provided for getting the letters of our special correspondents from Paris? Mr. Sala is in the city with the besieged. So are several other devoted public servants attached to the English Press. They are writing every day. Their diaries already must be getting heavy with matter. Have they contrived any novel method of sending their missives to Fleet-street and Printing House-square? The *Telegraph's* "Special Commissioner" writes so marvellously small that he gets a column of matter on a very limited piece of paper. His calligraphy is admirably adapted to the sending of correspondence by the carrier pigeon. Enough of Mr. Sala's writing on the lightest of foreign post paper might be brought under the wing of the little bird to fill, perhaps, a couple of columns of large type in the *Telegraph*, and we could forgive the editor if he set up such an epistle in "caps."—*Illustrated Midland News*.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE LAW OF LIBEL AS AFFECTING THE NEWSPAPER PRESS."

NO. XXII.—LIBELLOUS IMPUTATIONS ON COMMERCIAL MEN.

A NEW and important point in the law of libel was raised in the case of "Inman v. Jenkins," tried at the last Liverpool assizes in August last, before Mr. Justice Lush and a special jury. The question was, whether any published matter reflecting upon a commercial man, in his commercial capacity, was libellous? Mr. Justice Lush held that it was, and directed the jury accordingly, and they, under that direction, found a verdict for the plaintiffs, damages £250; subject, however, to the question of law above referred to, which was reserved for the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench. This was the main question in the case; but there was a further question which we shall presently refer to.

The plaintiffs, Mr. William Inman and several other persons, forming a company, were the owners of the Liverpool, New York, and Philadelphia line of steamers, plying between Liverpool and America, of which the well known and unfortunate "City of Boston" was one; and they brought this action against Mr. Benjamin George Jenkins, a law student, for an alleged libel which he had caused to be published in the impression of the *Times* newspaper of [the 12th of March last, purporting to be an extract from a letter of a Halifax merchant, dated the 25th] Feb., respecting the "City of Boston," whose loss, at that time, had not been positively ascertained, endeavouring to account for the probable loss of the vessel by her having been heavily laden with wheat, in bags, beyond what the policy of insurance allowed; and also by a deficiency in her having only a double fan screw instead of a three bladed one. The defendant pleaded Not Guilty to the whole declaration, and also two several pleas of justification to the effect that it was true in substance and in fact that the ship was loaded beyond what the insurance allowed. The extract complained of was as follows:—"The 'City of Boston,' which sailed hence on the 28th of January last, has not yet arrived in Liverpool. There is great anxiety felt here for her safety, more especially as there are so many of our merchants on board, as you will see by the *Chronicle* of the 24th. She was deeply laden with wheat in bags, being 18in. or 20in. deeper than the insurance allows. She sailed from here on a Friday, at noon, and we had a fearful snowstorm on the following Saturday night. If she encountered this there is no hope whatever of her turning up. I believe she was in it, as the 'Orontes,' which sailed from here two days before, was caught in it off Newfoundland, and nearly went down. Besides, the 'City of Boston' had only a two-fan screw, having broken her own on her outward trip. If she was not in the storm and has lost her loose screw, she has been driven south and the Azores will bring her up. In that case we may not hear of her for a month to come, and yet I cannot believe that she escaped the storm, but went down three weeks ago. I hope it may not be so. It will greatly interfere with business, as a great many of our merchants are aboard. Most of us are sending home buyers by this boat, having given up the 'City of Boston.' On application made by the plaintiffs to the *Times*, for the name of the correspondent communicating this extract, the defendant's name was furnished, and the action was then brought against him. No proceedings were taken against the *Times*.

The principal evidence adduced on the part of the plaintiffs, consisted of statements by several pilots, captains, and other persons under whose care the "City of Boston" had at one time or another been; all deposing to her great excellence as a ship, her capacity for cargo, draught of water, and other matters proving substantially the plaintiffs' case. The evidence on the part of the defendant consisted of depositions; being those of a great number of witnesses who saw the vessel's departure from Halifax, and disclosed statements of opinion, namely that the vessel appeared low in the water and down by the head at the time of her sailing.

At the conclusion of the evidence, the learned judge expressed his opinion, strongly, that nothing had been proved on the part of the defendant amounting to any justification of the statements

contained in the published extract. He said, "The question is whether, reading the whole of that extract, the tendency of it is to injure the plaintiffs, Messrs. Inman, in their commercial enterprise as owners of a line of steamers. Whatever reflects upon a commercial man in his commercial character, and is likely to injure that character, is libellous, and it will be for the jury to say whether this letter does bear that aspect? It does not impute to Messrs. Inman personally anything wrong, but it imputes to their agents at Halifax, who have the superintendence and loading of this ship, that either negligently, wilfully, or carelessly, they overloaded it to such an extent as to make it dangerous. It is for the jury to say whether that tends to injure the Messrs. Inman in their capacity as owners of this line of vessels. What confidence would the public have in going by their steamers if it were true that any one of them had been overloaded to such a dangerous depth?"

The jury expressed their concurrence in his lordship's observations; and the defendant having submitted to the verdict for the amount of damages, namely £250, proposed by his lordship, the second question above adverted to was not contested; that question was, whether, if the letter was libellous at all, it was not a libel on the agents at Halifax and not on the plaintiffs!

THE WAR CORRESPONDENTS.—You recollect how the *Pall Mall* astonished us all by the promptitude with which it published its description of the victory at Sedan. Its correspondent, Mr. Holt White, a Yankee, witnessed the battle from the knoll where the king's staff was stationed, and after the surrender saddled his horse and rode off to the nearest Belgian line of railway, took a special train at a cost of £400 or £500, wrote his account on his knees in the carriage, delivered his copy at the office at ten o'clock in the morning, and returned to the head-quarters the same night to join in the march to Paris. Mr. Holt White, it now turns out, is two single gentlemen rolled into one. He is the correspondent for the *New York Tribune* as well as the *Pall Mall*: and his description, flashed through the Atlantic cable, was read in Delmonico's Hotel in the *New York Tribune* simultaneously with its perusal in the club-rooms of Pall Mall and the coffee-houses of the Strand. This is a dash of enterprise and economy at the same time.—*Trevelman's Exeter Flying Post*.

THE "WEST INDIAN NEWS."—Mr. Frederic Algar, of Clement's Lane, London, commenced on October the 14th the issue of a new summary paper under the above title, containing all the news from the British, French, Dutch, Danish, Spanish, Swedish and Independent West Indies. It is to be continued fortnightly on arrival of each mail at the price of sixpence per copy, or twelve shillings per annum. It is a neat eight page sheet, and although small as compared with others, it is a marvel to us who know a little of West Indian papers—among the worst in the world—how the editor contrives to fill it with news. Mr. Algar has now promoted summary papers for all our colonial possessions—the *Australian* and *New Zealand Gazette*, the *Cape* and *Natal News*, the *Canadian News*, and last—and least, the *West Indian News*.

THE PERIODICAL WORLD.—Christ's Hospital is aspiring to literary honours. "The Coronet," a weekly twopenny magazine, lately appeared as the first organ of "the noble institution in Newgate-street." It is published by Mr. E. W. Allen of 11, Stationers' Hall Court, and offers facilities, under judicious limits, for amateur composition. A second magazine representing King Edward's foundation is "The Blue." We have not yet seen a copy. The Rev. R. F. Young, of Swindon, is about to publish at the beginning of the new year a new spiritualistic periodical, which will attempt to show that Spiritualism is entirely reconcilable with Christianity. A new periodical, "Night and Morning," will shortly appear.

THE "CORK EXAMINER" of the 6th October gave an amusing resume of news from copies of the *Hibernian Journal* of Dublin for May, 1775, and the *New Cork Evening Post* for December, 1796, in introducing which, the writer thus describes the appearance of the first named print:—"The *Journal* is a little sheet of four columns width, and of four pages; a limp and faded chronicle, musty with the odour of dead time—an ephemeron which perished on the day of its birth, ninety-five years ago. Its sharp old-fashioned print, its phraseology and spelling, often obsolete, its initialled paragraphs and capitalised substantives, belong to the era of the sedan chair and the link-boy, of the ruffe and the robe à la Maintenon, the cotillion and the oratorio."

MR. MATTHEW MILLER, of Leek, has sent us a copy of the *Leek Times*, a now three-halfpenny journal for Leek, Ashbourne, Cheadle, and the surrounding districts, which he has recently started with every prospect of success.

THE ROMANCE OF THE PRESS.

BY FELIX STOWE.

III.—THE CAPTIVE EDITOR.

My contributions to the NEWSPAPER PRESS under this title are so few and far between, that people will begin to suspect—and with some amount of reason—that there is very little romance connected with the profession of journalism after all. But war imports romantic elements into the very driest of pursuits—witness even a lawyer coming out of Paris the other day, in a balloon, over the heads of a besieging army, in fulfilment of a duty of his usurped power.

The story of M. Bornardini, editor of the *Industriel Alsacien*, as told by himself, has all the materials for a three volume novel.

The *Industriel* is a well-conducted journal, well printed on excellent paper, the position it occupies among the provincial Press of France being pretty clearly indicated by the fact that when the investment of Paris rendered the transmission of the metropolitan journals into the country impossible the *Industriel* was requested by the *Journal des Débats*, the *Opinion Nationale*, the *Journal de Paris*, and the *Temps* to take over their country subscribers.

When the Baden troops under General Keller entered Mulhouse on the 17th of September last, two officers presented themselves at the office of the *Industriel*, seized upon M. Bornardini, whom his friends had been unable to persuade to quit his post, and without permitting him to provide himself with a change of linen, or even to communicate with his wife and family the fact of his arrest, carried him off to the presence of the general. He demanded in vain the ground of this proceeding; the only information he could obtain being that General Keller was acting under superior orders; and after a very brief interview, was passed out through the back premises of the hotel where the head-quarters were established, and hurried off to Mulheim, on his way to the fortress of Rastadt. From that moment he disappeared entirely from the public view.

The tale which the captive editor on his liberation related to the "interviewer" of a contemporary, is at least a remarkable one:—

"The day of my arrest," he said, "I was taken to Mulheim, where we passed the night, going on the next morning to Rastadt. There I was thrown into the common prison, sharing my bed of dirty straw with a crowd of other prisoners of the lowest class, arrested on charges of firing on the German soldiers, and for other offences of the kind. The day following a telegram arrived from General Werder, ordering us to be sent to the head-quarters of the besieging forces at Mundolsheim, and for that place we accordingly started, the first part of the journey being performed, like that to Rastadt, by rail. As we approached Strasburg, however, we found the railway cut, and the last 15 miles had to be performed on foot.

"I was placed in the midst of the captured peasants, with whom I had passed the night, and compelled to carry my own portmanteau, the convoy being escorted by soldiers on either side. At some little distance short of Mundolsheim we met General Werder himself, accompanied by an aide-de-camp. On being informed that we were the prisoners sent by his order from Rastadt, the general at once singled me out from among the peasants by whom I was surrounded, and demanded roughly if I was the editor of 'that infamous paper, the *Industriel Alsacien*.' I informed him that I was, indeed, the individual in question; he at once turned his horse and rode off, giving directions that I should be brought immediately before him. Immediately, therefore, on my arrival at Mundolsheim I was ushered into the general's presence. 'So, Sir,' he said as I entered, 'you are the editor of that rascally journal the *Industriel* which calumniate the Germans. You will be shot this evening at nine o'clock. Begone.' I endeavoured to remonstrate, urging that before being shot one had, at least, the right to be heard. General Werder, however, interrupted me roughly, refusing to hear a word, and by his order the sentry by whom I had been brought in pushed me forcibly from the room and down the stairs.

"I was now thrust into a filthy dungeon, littered with dirty straw, and almost pitch dark, the only communication with the outer air being through a small unglazed hole pierced in the wall. Night closed in and every moment I expected the summons to execution. It did not come, however, and for two days I lay in my dungeon ignorant of what was to come. But this was not the worst. Outside the gap in the wall which served me for a window the court-yard was filled from morning to night with soldiers, and the principal feature of their conversation was my approaching fate. Cries of 'Death to the rascally editor,' alternated with exultant details of the execution one by one of my late companions in misfortune, and speculations as to the precise hour when my turn would come, whilst every now and then a short, sharp discharge overhead told of a fresh military execution. So, at least, I gathered from the conversation outside, and though, of course, I could not actually see what was taking place, I know not to what other cause they could be attributed. The second day came and passed, and I was still alive, though suffering terribly from the cold night air and from the swarm of insects which infested my dungeon. But now my greatest sufferings, already sufficiently

acute, received a fresh addition. The conversation in the court-yard recommenced, and before long I learned that that evening had been at length definitely fixed for my execution. Fresh cries of 'Death to the wretch of an editor,' greeted the announcement, and then the soldiers began to arrange among themselves how they would act if the duty of carrying it out should fall to them. 'He must not die too easily,' said one. 'No,' cried another, 'let us fire first at his legs and then at his body—let him linger as long as he can before we kill him!'

"I could bear it no longer. The fears of mere death had passed, and I felt that to die would be but a blessed relief from the mental agony I was undergoing. I looked round for some means of anticipating the horrible end in store for me, and seizing a bottle which was lying in a corner of my dungeon I struck myself repeatedly with it on my left temple with my full force. It broke in my hands, and at the noise the sentry looked in and found me on the ground, insensible and drenched with blood. How long it was before I came to myself I cannot say, but when I did so I found myself in bed in another part of the building, my head bound up in compresses, and my shirt and outer garments stiff with blood. Around me were several soldiers and an officer talking in low tones. I cannot possibly vouch for what they said, for my head was still confused, and the order I then heard may possibly have been the effect of my own fevered imagination. I do not believe that it was. I believe fully that I did really hear the order given in a low voice as he left the room to the armed sentry who remained in charge, 'Take care that he does not die of this wound. If there should seem to be any danger of that, shoot him at once.'

"Be that as it may, what followed is beyond all doubt. By the next day my head was again perfectly clear, and you need have no hesitation in accepting as truth the strange news which I have now to relate. The sentry, who still retained his post by my bed, had of course been changed more than once, and the soldier who now occupied the place was of a different stamp from those into whose hands I had hitherto fallen. More than once I heard him murmur to himself, 'Poor fellow, poor fellow; what he has suffered!' At length he seemed to take a sudden resolution, and touching me on the shoulder, bade me kneel up in my bed. I asked him why; and he replied that I had suffered enough, and that if I did not fear death he would save me from further torture and put me out of pain as quickly and easily as he could. You may believe me, Monsieur, when I tell you I was thankful for the relief. I rose to my knees as desired, and stepping back a pace or two, the sentry raised his rifle.

"I thought my last moment was come, and closed my eyes; but the blow did not come, and looking once more towards the sentry I saw that his hand trembled. Three times he raised his piece, but without courage to draw the trigger. At length he abandoned the attempt, and I sank down again on my couch scarce knowing whether these fresh reprieves had more of pleasure or of pain. The next morning I was scarcely dressed when an order came to take me to a certain cross near some place whose name I could not catch, and there shoot me without further delay. I was put into a common country cart, escorted by Prussian soldiers, and we started on our way. We travelled for some time, but no cross appeared, and at length, as we passed a military post, fresh orders were given, indicating as the place of my death an open space in a wood some little distance off. Once more we started, and soon approached the wood, but the mental tension had endured too long. All feeling even of fear had grown benumbed within me, and when the cart slackened its pace I prepared to descend as calmly as though I were personally altogether unconcerned. But, after all, I was not to die. From what cause I know not, but after a brief delay we again resumed our march, and in another hour we were at Hagenau, and I was ushered just as I was, dirty, travel-stained, my head bound up, and my clothes stiff with blood, into the presence of the civil governor, M. Bismark.

"From this time the worst of my troubles were over. M. Bismark received me politely, and even courteously, reproaching me gently with having attempted my own life, and assuring me that I had nothing to fear. I replied that, on the contrary, General Werder had himself threatened me with death, and actually ordered me to execution. 'Ah well,' he replied, 'General Werder is a soldier, and with death always before his eyes, thinks very little of it. You are in the hands of the civil power now, and though I cannot yet venture to set you free, you need have no further fear of either death or ill-treatment.' And he kept his word. A day or two later, on the representations of a medical board that my wound might even yet prove dangerous, I was removed to the infirmary, where I have been carefully tended until my wound is, as you see almost entirely healed. On Saturday M. Bismark again sent for me, and informing me that General Werder had now quitted Strasburg, expressed his gratification at being thus enabled once more to set me free."

I would not spoil the story by telling it in my own words, but, if this is not a romantic tale of the Press, I shall give up all hope of continuing my series—in fact, it reads a good deal more like romance than reality. Yet M. Bornardini is a man whose credibility has never been impeached. Could it, after all, have been a series of brutal jokes? If so, we must believe that the Germans, from General Werder and M. Bismark to the very soldiers of the ranks, are given to practical joking, which, it must be confessed, is of the heaviest German order.

THE "OXFORD TIMES."—The *employés* of the *Oxford Times* have held a waygoose, in conjunction with the *employés* of the *Abingdon and Reading Herald*, which belongs to the same proprietary. In proposing the health of the proprietor, Mr. Rippon, Mr. Butler warmly congratulated that gentleman on having, in an incredibly short space of time, dragged up the *Oxford Times* from a "little wee bantling," to the proud position of being the leading paper in Oxfordshire, and one of the largest-circulated county papers in the country.

THE FRENCH PRESS OF THE SECOND EMPIRE.

AMONG the many curious revelations that have been brought to light by the publication of the state papers and correspondence of the Emperor discovered in the Palace of the Tuilleries at Paris after the downfall of the Second Empire, is a document on the organisation of the Press. It is dated April 15, 1869, just before the last general elections, and appears to have special reference to the agitation of that period. It takes the shape of a report from the Minister of the Interior to the Emperor, and though too voluminous for publication at full length in our columns, the following extracts will, we hope, be found interesting to our readers.

Provincial Press. The papers relating to the journals of each department are kept separately, the Prefects being consulted on all questions of importance, and their opinions and replies compared with the other information obtained at the Ministry, derived from the declarations made by the Deputies as well as from the local Press. These collections of documents are kept in the most perfect order, and can be laid before the Minister at a moment's notice if required. In examining these papers it will be found that there were four different measures in operation for controlling the Press: 1. Subventions granted for the purpose of ensuring the existence or the devotion of the newspapers;—2. Subventions to enable the journals to distribute a number of free copies, so as to neutralise similar steps taken by the Opposition Press;—3. Subventions to strengthen the editorial staff by the support of fresh forces;—and 4. Sending from Paris new editors to the provincial Press, either at the expense of the candidates or of the proprietors of the journals. This system, which is in full accordance with the recommendations made by the Prefects, has been pursued to the greatest extent compatible with the pecuniary means placed at their disposal, and to make these means go as far as possible, an understanding was arrived at between the Prefects, the proprietors of journals, the candidates and the Deputies. Thanks to the sacrifices made and a few trifling subventions taken from the reserve fund of 50,000 frs., the reorganisation of twenty-seven provincial papers has been effected, and their editorial staff reinforced by a hundred and thirty-three writers sent from Paris. (A list is appended to the original giving the particulars of the disbursements, the total amount spent by the Government for this special branch of the secret service amounting to 34,000 frs.)

Correspondences. It might have been possible to limit the action of the executive to the newspapers devoted to the Government, but it was considered of importance to exercise an indirect influence on the Opposition Press. The means employed for this purpose were of only two descriptions, to ensure the support of the leading Paris correspondents of the principal organs of the Press in the provinces, and to make the utmost use of the apparent monopoly virtually enjoyed by Havas for his telegraphic despatches that he furnishes to the provincial Press of all political opinions and in every department throughout the Empire. With regard to the first named subject, a sort of compromise was effected between the correspondence of Pharon and that of Cabot, who serves twenty-seven journals of the *tiers-parti*. During the period of the elections Cabot was to receive his instructions what to write from day to day from the office of the Minister, and had undertaken to communicate to the journals that employ him everything thus furnished him that was in accordance with their line of politics, without betraying his connexion with the Government. On the other hand, the correspondence of Havas has always been in daily connexion with the Ministry. Every time that it is considered of importance to give a denial, a correction, or a confirmation, or to disseminate quickly a useful piece of intelligence, Havas puts the pith of it into the form of a short telegram and spreads it over the whole of France. An arrangement has been made with him to communicate freely all that is going on, so that this service has reached the pitch of perfection, and it replaces all the items of news that the Government thinks it superfluous to be made known in a more direct and official manner. The importance of this mode of publicity may be gathered from the fact that Havas supplies no less than three hundred and seven journals with news from Paris. Finally,

as often as is deemed requisite notes, diplomatic or state correspondence, and other matter, were sent to Brussels for publication in *Le Nord*. (The report is silent as to the relations between the Government and the Press in England and Germany, but from other sources we learn that they boasted of having about twenty in their pay, some of which were alleged to be first-rate journals in both countries).

The Paris Press. At the head of the newspapers that the Government employed to make propaganda for them was *Le Petit Journal*, which threw off 250,000 copies every day. The Government had made an arrangement with Milhaud, the manager of the paper, to publish in it a certain number of the biographies of the Ministers in power and the leading members of the Majority in the Senate and Legislative Assembly. It was further agreed that he should publish in the *feuilleton* of the journal a military romance, with the plot laid in the time of the First Empire, to amuse the army and neutralise the opposition of the soldiery. This novel was furnished from the Emperor's cabinet. (It is generally believed to have been written by the hand of the Emperor himself.—Ed.) Then Milhaud caused a number of portraits of the Government candidates to be lithographed and distributed to the subscribers. On the other hand, the *Peuple Français* (edited by Clement Duvernois) and *La Patrie* were entrusted with the polemics in favour of the Ministerial candidates. These journals had engaged to devote every day a large space in their columns to the current chronicle of the elections. The Government furnished the facts, and they were written and edited by Behagel, Vitu, Aurelien Scholl, and Adrian Marr. The other Paris journals that were employed to write in the interests of the Emperor's Government were *La France*, the *Messenger de Paris*, the *Constitutionnel*, the *Public*, the *Pays*, and *Le Dix Decembre*. The *Figaro*, conducted by Villemessant, had also been won over to support the Ministerial candidates. All these journals received their instructions and *le mot d'ordre* from the office of the Minister of the Interior every day, and for this service were paid subsidies to enable them to distribute to the public a certain number of free copies.

F. S.

THE SMALLEST NEWSPAPER I EVER SAW.

A COPY of the smallest newspaper I ever saw is now before me. It is called the *Pittenweem Register*, No. 1, Thursday, November 14th, 1844. It is about the size of one column of the NEWSPAPER PRESS, and is only printed on one side.

"The *Pittenweem Register*," says the opening address, "will not be published on any specified day, like a magazine or newspaper, but will appear now and again as occasion requires. When any occurrence takes place in our own quiet little town, or in any of the surrounding towns, requiring notice, it will then appear. It is intended to publish the Births, Marriages and Deaths of the district. It will be free of any charge, and given as a wrapper round goods purchased; but any person requiring more copies than one, may have them at one halfpenny each." The contents of No. 1 are a list of the town council, a paragraph on the weather, a report of a fatal accident to a sloop owner of Pittenweem, one "Birth," and one "Death."

An inquisitive collector of Press curiosities wrote to the printer for particulars of his little paper, and received the following modest reply, which I copy from the original letter now in my possession:

Pittenweem, Jan. 25. h, 845.

Sir,

I received your letter this day and willingly comply with your request. My little *Register* is not intended, nor has it any pretensions to be a newspaper. I have no regular subscribers to it—I never asked any person to become a subscriber. When I began it I intended that it should appear at distant intervals—just when I thought proper myself, without anyone having the slightest control over it. I attached no importance to it—it was a thing of chance. I never expected to make any money by it. But I believe I am just repeating what you will read in the first number. The reason I have published it oftener than I intended at setting out, was—I had little else to do, and the people continuing to ask me when I would print another *Register*. I give away ten as wrappers for one I sell. Supposing I was capable of conducting a periodical, which I am not, there is no room for a thing of the kind here—at least that is my opinion. Pittenweem contains a population of about 1000 souls, principally fishermen, who have no great taste for literature, and

the population of the district is so scattered, that it would take the profit of a small publication to convey it to them.

The principal use the people make of the *Register* is sending it off in letters—it contains the news of the town, or rather village—and, besides, it is a sort of curiosity in its line. There is not a publication in the three countries depending less on public favour than the *Pittenceem Register*. I can stop it, or bring it out when I like, and I have no subscriber to check me in my course.

Your most obedient servant,
JAMES SCOTT.

I have enclosed four of them, and, unless you are a native of this place, you can take little interest in them.

There is a charming simplicity about this letter from the little fishing town out on the East Neuk o' Fife, near the German Ocean, that has induced me to give it in full.

The printer who brings out a paper because he has "little else to do,"—who congratulates himself on having no subscribers, because he can "stop it, or bring it out when he likes," is somewhat of a curiosity in these modern times.

BOOK-WORM.

THE NEW FRENCH PRESS REGULATIONS.

(From the *Printer's Register*).

SINCE our last, tremendous events have taken place. A dynasty has been overthrown, and a new form of government has been inaugurated. These are the political results of recent occurrences, and their effects on the Press and the printing profession are great and of enduring importance. French journalism has, within a month, achieved greater liberty than it has gained in the last fifty years. First of all, the Stamp Duty has been abolished—there is no "timbre impérial" mark at the corner of every sheet. The enforced signature to the article has been likewise abolished. The object of the law was to lower the prestige of journalism. The authors of it fancied that when the public knew the names of the persons who write leading articles they would be less apt to be led away by the arguments used. This law, conceived in an illiberal spirit, was a thorough failure, and operated in a way not contemplated by its authors. Evasion, of course, was easy. If a friend of the Count de Chambord or the Count de Paris, or even these Pretenders themselves, chose to write an article, it was obviously impossible to prove that the signature which fathered them was not that of the "true author." The absurdity of the law is illustrated by the fact that although the Imperial Government delighted in persecuting the Press, the terrible penalties against a false signature have never once been put in force. If journalists keep their own counsel, it is manifestly impossible to prove that the man who signed the article did not indite it. Although the law may be in abeyance, French journalists, with few exceptions, will continue to sign their articles, because they value the consideration in society which the fact of their names appearing in print as political writers gives them.

THE WAR CORRESPONDENT.—Last Saturday the *Spectator* and the *Saturday Review* had articles on War Correspondents, the former highly favourable, and reprinted into the *Times*; the latter that sort of currying which the *Saturday* grooms delight to inflict on the animals they dress, be they donkeys or war-horses. The *Spectator* alluded to Dr. Russell as the great representative of the Special Correspondent; and it was Dr. Russell that the *Saturday* selected as the choice specimen of the tribe, in an article which, of course, did not get a place in the columns of the *Times*. The severity of the *Saturday's* article probably induced the *Times* to publish that of the *Spectator* as healing balm to the wounded Russell. He is represented by the reviewer as a vulgar clodhopper, garrulous, egotistical, sycophantic, ever piling up mountains of words in his fawning efforts to curry favour with the great princes, statesmen, and soldiers, into whose society he is thrown; but piling up still higher mountains of words to describe the little incidents which affect his personal comfort, more especially those which relate to his "wittles." It is, however, curious to contrast the articles in the *Spectator* and *Saturday Review*—the one all honey, the other all gall, while each has been distilled from the same facts, the first extracting all that is nice, the latter all that is nasty, which each puts forward as the genuine article, and it is, but only half, being minus any element of the other side.—*Anglo-American Times*.

"LE PETIT JOURNAL."

(From the *Printer's Circular*).

ALFRED D'AUNAY, in giving a most lively and entertaining account of the establishment of *Le Petit Journal*, with personal sketches and portraits of the founders, editors, authors, etc., who have laboured upon it, closed the account with a portrait of Marinoni and of his press.

The description of the inventor and his invention is much too long for our limits; but the spirit of the eulogium may be well gathered from the following condensation of the original:—

The immense popularity of *Le Petit Journal* soon compelled the establishment of a separate printing department, and the selection of the most modern and improved machinery. The first thought was to seek the required assistance from England or America, where the celebrated Richard M. Hoe was unanimously regarded as the most able of mechanicians. But in Paris there was to be found the press of Hippolyte Marinoni, a machine representing the very final expression of present progress. Nothing has, as yet, been made so complete, so prodigious.

Before the invention of these machines, ten great presses were required for printing *Le Petit Journal*, with the aid of eighty-four workmen; but with the presses of Marinoni the same work is performed in less time with but twenty-eight assistants. What an immense economy of time, of space, of money!

Le Petit Journal would have required four Hoe presses, each costing 120,000 francs. The four presses from Marinoni each cost but 40,000 francs. On the Hoe press it is necessary to feed the sheets of paper twice; for they are printed only on one side, while with the Marinoni machine the workman feeds the sheets but once. They are printed automatically on both sides, and are piled, one above another, upon a table whence the cutter conveys them. These advantages are really immense. Even England herself comprehends them.

Hippolyte Marinoni, the great inventor, is a child of Paris, and France venerates him as the equal of Oberkampf and Jacquart. He has passed his life in labour, and has been successively a mechanic and a printer, and has become a master in both employments. He has recognised what is weak or defective in machinery, and, little by little, improvement by improvement, he has produced the marvels of which we speak.

The invention of Marinoni has contributed much to the prosperity of *Le Petit Journal*; but the ingenious constructor has also been fortunate in that, at the very moment when he would launch upon the world an invention as surprising as it is marvellous, he should meet a popular journal ready to appreciate the grandeur of his system and demonstrate its excellence. This serves as yet another proof of that intimate solidarity that unites all the whole machinery of progress.

THE FIRST HALFPENNY PAPER IN IRELAND.—On the 1st September was issued the first halfpenny newspaper ever started in Ireland. It is entitled the *Belfast Evening Telegraph*. The opening address says: "In London, Glasgow, Liverpool, and the leading towns in England, evening journals have been recently established which, owing to their being sold for one halfpenny, are accessible to the multitude, and have proved the greatest benefit to the masses of the people, whose increasing intelligence has enabled them to appreciate the efforts of those who supply them, at half the ordinary cost, with a newspaper substantially as high in character and tone as the old-established journals. We have resolved that the people at Belfast and every town in Ulster shall have like facilities for obtaining prompt information upon the general events of the day. We expect that our enterprise in providing a cheap evening journal will be as well appreciated and supported in Belfast, and generally throughout the province of Ulster, as similar efforts have been in the sister countries." The new venture may be said to inaugurate an era in the history of the Press of Ireland. We trust it may have a prosperous career.

THE ILLUSTRATED MIDLAND NEWS WAYZGOOSE.—The literary and artistic staff and employees on the *Illustrated Midland News* celebrated the first anniversary of the establishment of this journal by a dinner at the Great Western Hotel. Mr. Joseph Hatton occupied the chair and Mr. Richard Gowing the vice-chair. A very pleasant evening was spent, and hearty congratulations were exchanged on the success which in the first twelve months has attended this novel enterprise in provincial journalism.

The Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

TOURS, October 22.

THE news-correspondence system of the continent is deverted by the horrid events of the war that is raging—even the Havas Agency is dislocated. French correspondents have not even the consolation of seeing the German—no, nor the Russian nor Italian journals in regular succession. Our occupation will be quite gone if this horrid war lasts—we must all go to the camps and be war reporters. I, who supplied some English journals with Bourse news—help me! Where is the Bourse now? What the last quotation of *Rente*? With my left hand to my aching temple, let my right pen a few disjointed lines to you for distraction.

According to all accounts the Germans are not severe upon the journalists of the French towns which they capture or occupy; but even allow them a great amount of liberty in discussing the conduct of the conquerors, and even giving vent to sentiments of patriotism. The Government of the Republic, on the contrary, would seem to be less tolerant, for I read that *Blanqui's Journal*, the *Patrie en Danger*, and the *Combat*, the latter edited by Felix Pyat, have ceased to appear, "under the pressure of public reprobation;" that the *Gazette du Midi* is suspended, and that the Commissary General of the National Defence has interdicted the publication of the *Mémorial de Lille*. In most of the towns occupied by the Germans the invading authorities have established an official journal of their own.

From the Emperor's papers, found in the Tuileries and since published, it is shown that 160,000 frs. were paid to M. Granier de Cassagnac as secret service money. In a letter from that gentleman that has appeared in the *Indépendance Belge*, he indignantly denies that any part of that sum was devoted to his own use, but was employed as subvention to the *Constitutionnel* and the *Pays*. He adds that he only received a salary of 12,000 frs. as chief editor, and his son, Paul de Cassagnac, 10,000 frs., but nobody is bound to believe his statement.

The *Peuple Souverain* publishes some particulars of the determined suicide of Judge Delesvaux, ex-President of the Sixth Chamber of Correctional Police, who, after writing letters all night till five o'clock in the morning, shot himself deliberately with a pistol on which were inscribed the words *Dio e populo*. The *Echo du Nord*, in reproducing the account given, adds, evidently in a great rage: "By his self-destruction, Delesvaux has escaped the galleys or the guillotine. He had never once acquitted a prisoner brought before him for trial, and among the papers lately found at the Tuileries the reason becomes apparent. For every conviction for Press offences the ex-President received a round sum, from the fines he inflicted of greater or lesser amount, according to the importance of the case and the wealth and respectability of the defendants. These sums brought him in a vast deal of money." It is believed to have been his intention to have made his escape with his ill-gotten wealth, but he was prevented from leaving Paris in time by the investment of the city by the German armies, and that he preferred death by his own hand to the shame of having to hear the reproaches of his many bitter enemies, and disgorging the fruits of his iniquities. He was not married, and had but few friends, being generally seen alone, and sneaking about the streets at night as if ashamed to hold companionship with his fellow-creatures.

The Press in France is at present in a desperate crisis. At Paris as I wrote last month several newspapers have been altogether discontinued, others are printed on half sheets and even smaller scraps, owing to the absolute scarcity of paper, and others again have quitted the sinking ship and removed to Tours and other provincial towns. Among the former are *Galignani's Messenger*—the only paper in the English language on the whole of the European continent—the *Volontaire*, the *Histoire*, the *Public*, *Blanqui's Journal*, the *Patrie en danger*, the *Parlement*, and the *Combat*. The last named, edited by Felix Pyat, has since been resumed. The *Charivari*, *Electeur Libre*, *Liberté*, *Monde*, and *Réveil*, appear on half sheets. The *Constitutionnel*, *Pays*, *Journal Français*,

Gazette de France, and *Union*, are published at Tours, *La France* at Blois, the *Siccle* at Poitiers, and the *Univers* at Nantes. The *Liberté* still continues to appear, though in diminished size, at Paris, besides which it publishes an *Edition hors Paris*, edited by Leonce Detroyat; it partakes of the peripatetic nature, and seems to have no regular abiding place or head-quarters, but roams through the departments according to circumstances. The latest number that I have seen is dated Tours, but printed at Bordeaux by A. de Larefranche.

The *Moniteur*, which has also removed to Tours, is now again the official organ for all France except Paris, where the *Journal Officiel* is still continued; but it is understood that M. Laurier, the Acting Minister of the Interior at Tours, is taking steps to establish an organ of his own, under the title of the *Bulletin Officiel de la République Française*. This became the more necessary, as M. Dalloz would only insert the official part in his *Moniteur* on condition of the rest of the paper being perfectly independent, which has frequently led to the anomaly of his attacking on one page the official publications printed on the other.

M. Louzon, the editor of the *Pays*, has been arrested at Paris for a political article signed by all the editors, and hostile to the present Provisional Government; but the manager interfered to save the premises and property, which were threatened with spoliation by the infuriated mob, and appointed a new editorial staff, with M. Armand Dubarry, late of the *Constitutionnel*, at their head.

Though the present time is by no means favourable for starting new journals in Paris, I learn that one has just been established there under the name of *La Vérité* by an enterprising gentleman of the name of Portalis, who is also the chief editor. It has met with a favourable reception.

The *Journal Officiel* of October 11th publishes a decree of the Provisional Government abolishing the deposit of caution-money for the future. It adds that those papers that have paid such sums will be reimbursed at the end of the war.

The *Union Libérale et Démocratique* of Versailles has been suspended by the German authorities for peremptorily refusing to publish *communiqués* and other items sent them by the Germans. It has been replaced by the *Nouveliste*, which is supported by the Prussian Prefect, Herr von Brauchitsch, and appeared for the first time October 15th. It is edited by a Dr. Arthur Levisohn, formerly the Paris correspondent of the *Kölnische Zeitung*, and is confined to a small quarto sheet. It caused some trouble to bring it out, as the printer, Beau, and the vendor, Mad. La Dur, refused all co-operation, and could only be induced to consent on the application of *force majeure* in the shape of a formal order from the German Prefect, which under present circumstances they did not dare to disobey. It supersedes the *Recueil Officiel du Département de Seine et Oise*, and all the mayors of communes are bound to take it in. Besides the official publications, it hitherto only contains intelligence of facts.

PRO RE NATA.

By a curious concatenation of circumstances the *Moniteur* (though but provisionally and locally) has once more become the official organ of the French Government. M. Paul Dalloz, the editor and manager of this celebrated ancient journal, is now at Tours with a far larger staff of writers, compositors, &c., than any of his rivals. M. Laurier, the Acting Minister of the Interior outside the walls of Paris, has made a very flattering appeal to the "patriotism" of M. Dalloz, praying him to afford the hospitality of *Moniteur* to the official acts of the Tours Government, the little *Bulletin Officiel*, which has hitherto published them, having a very restricted circulation, which, moreover, it is impossible to increase, owing to the limited establishment of the Government printer. M. Dalloz has accepted M. Laurier's offer on the thorough understanding that outside the official column the *Moniteur* is to be perfectly independent. Once more, therefore, Europe, which has not yet had time to become familiar with the idea of the *Moniteur* being a private newspaper and replaced by the *Journal Officiel*, must look to the *Moniteur* for official French news.—*Daily News*.

The *London Figaro* contains the following concerning the world-famed *Galignani*:—"One of the remarkable events brought

about by the present war is the disappearance of *Galignani's Messenger*, which was started here in 1814. This paper, which came out originally on a foolscap sheet of white-brown paper, was founded by a Neapolitan Jew, and continued by his sons, William and Anthony, who are now enormously wealthy men. It was a Mr. Hely Bowes, an intelligent Irishman, who was at the head of the editorial department, to which his son since succeeded."

M. Villemot, a French humorist, who, though not more than 55 years of age, may be said to have been the founder of that great feature of Paris journalism called *La Chronique*, died this week.

I believe that in ordinary times Versailles boasts a couple of journals. One has entirely ceased to appear, rather than submit to German censorship; and the other, which comes out twice a week on thin yellow paper, abstains entirely from politics, and regales its readers with no better fare than extracts from clerical writings, supposed to be of an unpatriotic nature. Naturally Versailles is impatient under this dearth of intelligence, and the conquerors have stepped in to supply the want by publishing a daily sheet of their own, in French, called *Le Nouvelliste de Versailles*. The first number appeared yesterday, and was all bought up before I could supply myself with a copy.—*Standard Correspondence*.

NORTH GERMANY.

HAMBURG, October 25.

Herr Gustav Freytag, the successful author of *Soll und Haben* and editor of the well known periodical called the *Grenzboten*, will retire from the management of the latter at the end of this year, in consequence of a dispute with the publisher, Herr F. L. Herbig, of Leipzig. The last named gentleman has announced his bold design of continuing the publication of the *Grenzboten* with a new editor, whom he is at present anxiously looking for, but has not found yet. It will, however, be a difficult task to keep up at its present level the high reputation the paper has attained through the popular editor Herr Freytag, whose name has been so intimately connected with it ever since it was commenced twenty-three years ago. The success of Herr Herbig's bold intention of continuing the publication of the periodical without the co-operation of Herr Freytag, appears the more hazardous from the fact, that the well known publisher, Dr. S. Hirzel, has induced Freytag, to undertake the management and editorship of a new political and literary periodical weekly, that he intends to start on the 1st of January next, at Leipzig, but the title of which has not yet been settled. Herr Freytag, who ever since the commencement of the war has been a welcome guest at the head-quarters of the Crown Prince of Prussia, has just returned from Versailles, and is now on a short visit to his friends in this city, preparatory to going back again to France to resume his duties as editor and special war correspondent of the *Grenzboten*.

About a month ago criminal proceedings were instituted on the part of the Government of Saxony against Wilhelm Obermüller, editor of the now suppressed Ultra-Radical *Sächsische Zeitung* of Leipzig, on the serious charge of "Treason against the State," in consequence of which he was arrested and confined till his trial. Shortly afterwards, however, at the instance of his family, he was released upon his signing a bond to answer the accusation when called on, and allowed to return to his residence at Reudnitz near Leipzig, where he bound himself to remain. But he has now thought proper to break his promise and make his escape, in consequence of which a *Steckbrief* or official warning to the police authorities, with a request to arrest him wherever he may be found and send him back under escort to Leipzig, has been issued against him. The Dresden *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* states that Obermüller has arrived in safety at Vienna, and found employment as one of the editorial staff of the Ultra-Feudal *Vaterland* of that city. If this be confirmed, it is extremely improbable that he will be given up, as there is no Treaty of Extradition between Austria and Saxony or the North German Confederation in existence.

The Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt, as a proof of his earnest intention to merge into the German Confederation, has granted a general amnesty for all Press offences.

At Strasburg things are beginning to shake down into their places; the Governor-general of Alsace has removed his establishment into the city from Hagenau, which had provisionally been the seat of his administration. The official journal, containing the Government proclamations and the advertisements emanating from the various authorities, is now also transferred to the Alsatian capital, and the publication of private newspapers is again permitted under certain regulations and restrictions; thus for the present a sort of censorship is needed to prevent anything hostile towards Germany from creeping in. The papers may be published in German and French or in German alone, but not in French alone, it being the intention to re-Germanise the people as soon as possible; for the German dialect they speak in Alsace, after having been totally neglected for nearly two hundred years, is a villainous *patois*, closely resembling that spoken by the Suabians in the Black Forest, on the opposite side of the Rhine. Normal schools are already being organised throughout the province, and not only are the schoolmasters Germans, but everything taught by them is imparted through the medium of the German language. The only private journal at present published at Strasburg is the *Courrier du Bas-Rhin*, which has now reappeared since the 1st of October, but under the German title of *Nieder-Rheinischer Kurier*, which, however, is a misnomer and gives a false idea of where it is published; as long as the Bas Rhin was a French department, nothing could have been more correct, but now that it is restored to its original German possessors, it may be objected that there is a large tract of country much further down the river, generally known as the Lower Rhine, so that the name of the paper will probably soon be altered. With regard to the varied contents it publishes, much cannot be expected under the present circumstances, and its political intelligence is but a reprint from the *Karlsruher Zeitung* and other German sources. In the meantime the official organ, the *Ämtliche Nachrichten für Elsass*, gives notice that, by special instructions received from the Civil Governor of the province, though for the present the official documents will be published in French and German—or rather in German, with an authorised French translation appended,—the non-official part will be printed exclusively in the German language alone.

I have seen some impressions of *Indépendant de Metz* of a tolerably recent date—reaching to the middle of October; they are of a small quarto size, and printed on red paper, as no white was to be obtained in the beleaguered city. Their destination was Paris, and they were sent up in a balloon, which, however, fell within the German lines. Of course they contain no news, but only local intelligence of no interest to the public beyond the range of the guns in the fortress.

The *Frankfort Journal* has been confiscated, on account of an article on the impeachment of Dr. Jacoby.

BELGIUM.

It is stated that the Minister of the North German Confederation at the Court of Brussels has lodged a formal complaint at the Belgian Ministry for Foreign Affairs against the *Indépendance Belge*.

TURKEY.

A JOURNALISTIC LAWSUIT.—The journals of Constantinople bring news of a lawsuit between the proprietor of the *Levant Herald* and an English gentleman, whom he had engaged as his assistant-editor. Mr. M'Coan, the proprietor of the *Herald*, complained that his editor, an Englishman named Harris, and who has had great experience in his profession, was not up to the demands of his journal, and almost summarily dismissed him. Mr. Harris thereupon brought an action against Mr. M'Coan to compel him to pay a certain amount of salary, as is the custom when an editor is abruptly discharged from his post. On the trial Mr. M'Coan and his editor were amusingly outspoken as to each other's failings. Mr. M'Coan accused Mr. Harris of "quasi-muddiness of intellect," while the latter declared that his employer did not use the English of an educated man. Mr. Harris was said to be sulky, or what the Scotch call "dour." Mr. M'Coan, on the other hand, was described as being in a chronic state of dissatisfaction with everybody whom he employed. The judge of the Supreme Consular Court decided in favour of the plaintiff, and gave judgment for £170 with costs.

AUSTRIA.

A new railway journal is now published at Vienna under the title of *Oesterreichisch-Ungarische Eisenbahn Zeitung*, and is well supported, as it professes to be the organ of the whole of the railway interests, and their trade and traffic, with reviews of railway affairs generally. It is edited and published by Herr M. Czermak.

The Czechish organ, *Slovan*, has been confiscated by the police on account of its defiant language and vindictive attacks on the Imperial Council of State.

Herr Gustav von Heine, proprietor of the Vienna *Fremdenblatt*, has been raised to the dignity of a Baron of the Empire.

ITALY.

Active measures are being taken by the Italians for the removal of the seat of Government from Florence to Rome, and the principal newspapers are preparing to do the same. The *Gazzetta del Popolo* has already established a filial office in the new metropolis, where it prints and publishes daily a twin edition of its Florentine brother. The printing establishment and publishing offices of the very unpopular (Papal) *Osservatore Romano* have been demolished by the mob, and the paper itself discontinued.

Newspapers are springing up like mushrooms in the virgin soil of Rome. The new Government of course has its organ, the *Gazzetta Ufficiale di Roma*, then come the journals started by private speculation, *Gazzetta del Popolo*, *Gazzetta di Roma*, *Il Tribuna*, *La Capitale*, *Il Miglioramento*, &c. Most of these will have disappeared in a few weeks, and will be succeeded by others, and so on until the Florentine papers, mostly themselves of Turinese extraction, begin to move southwards.

Many hours had not elapsed after the Italian occupation of Rome before the walls of the city were placarded with notices of the Italian translation of "Lothair." It is now published daily in the *feuilleton* of the *Gazzetta d'Italia*, the translator being a young Anglo, or rather Scoto, Italian, Mr. Robert Montgomery Stuart.

RUSSIA.

The St. Petersburg *Börsen Zeitung* states there is good reason to believe that the new Press law will be laid before the Council of State for their approbation and consent in the course of the present year, and that, if sanctioned, it will come into operation on New Year's Day, old style.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, October 14.

MORE new palaces for the Press! The *New York Tribune* will in the course of next year build itself a very forum on the site of its present, by no means contemptible, temple. I remember, some years ago, seeing the mean, out-of-the-way, up-in-the corner office of the *Times*, somewhere in the back alums of Ludgate Hill. If that is the best lodging that the London Jupiter can find, I invite him to come and have a look at the numerous seats of Mercury which abound in this city. Poor Jupiter! Mercury cuts you out and totally eclipses you—in gas at least—in the U. S. A. Your thunderbolts may be hurled from that dark and cloudy place, but we, in New York, manage the lightning better! And we beat you by long chalks in our correspondence from the seat of war. We report two battles to your one, and have the fullest details (in capitals running down half a column) of victories and defeats that you never heard of! For shame, drowsy old Jupiter! It would seem that Mercury (the U. S. A. Mercury) has made a compact with Mars (there are two Marses in the field—one on each side) to furnish him with the fullest and truest particulars. The cable is the string he pulls—"noughts" run as freely along it as rings on a curtain pole; sometimes the number of prisoners come as "100"—a ring slips unawares and it becomes "1000"—the manipulator loses control of the rings, and the next edition has a message that it is "10,000." It must be those charming little fingers at the head office, that are at fault; our "special correspondents" could never be so inventive. But sensation is

what American readers want, and they are getting full measure of it; and, as our *Deutsche* population like it flavoured very strongly to one taste, and our "Irish element" highly spiced in another, you may guess that our digestion is getting a little out of order. We are becoming mentally dyspeptic and begin to cavil at the dishes that are daily served up to us, and turn our heads with aversion from the sauce of your *Times*, the *saur kraut* of your *Telegraph*, the pricked claret of your *Standard*, the chicken broth of your *Globe*, and the *Absinthe Prusse* of your *Daily News*. We have enough and to spare, at home, and journalists themselves begin to wish the war was over—the work is getting too hard, and we long for the rest which their eating their last biscuit, or dying in the last ditch will afford us. May dear old "SOL" come back then, and resume, for the NEWSPAPER PRESS, the pen which he left in the unworthy hands of "JEFFERSON BRICK!"

I send you at foot a few cuttings of Press news; but there is very little this month worth recording:—

"Mark Twain," by the death of his father-in-law, comes in possession of a million dollars. This, in addition to the fortune accumulated in journalism, will foot up about a million and two hundred thousand dollars.

General Clinton B. Fisk has entered suit in the Circuit Court in the sum of 50,000 dols. against the St. Louis *Times*, for libel. The plaintiff alleges that the defendants, some time since, published false and malicious statements concerning his connexion with the South Pacific Railroad, charging that he had withheld and destroyed a book and voucher, and allowed a claim for several thousand dollars, for which the company received no benefit.

Dr. Charles H. Ray, editor of the Chicago *Post*, died in that city, on Saturday evening, September 24th. He was one of the most successful of Western journalists, and it was under his editorial care that the Chicago *Tribune* reached its great influence.

It is proposed to publish a first-class daily Republican paper at Harrisburg, Pa., as soon as 50,000 dols. capital has been subscribed, and J. R. Sypher, the Philadelphia correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, will take charge of it. The paper will be called the *State Journal*.

Mr. Godkin, of the New York *Nation*, who was recently called to be Professor of History at Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., has decided to decline the offer, and will remain editor of his paper.

Hon. William F. Packer, Ex-Governor of Pennsylvania, died at his residence in Williamsport, Pa., on Tuesday, September 27th, aged sixty-four years. He was chosen Governor of this State in 1857, and served from January, 1858, until January, 1861, when he was succeeded by Governor Curtin. Prior to his election as Governor, he had been State Senator for the Lycoming District, and had been printer and editor, having published the *Lycoming Gazette* at Williamsport for many years. He was a gentleman of pleasing address and manners, and a fine specimen of the vigorous manhood of the interior of Pennsylvania.

The following are among the new papers announced in the *Printer's Circular* for October:—

Daily News, Hazleton, Pa.; five columns; J. C. Fincher, editor. *The Expositor*, Waynesboro', Georgia (weekly); six columns; Democratic. *Bristol Courier*, Bristol, Tenn. (weekly); seven columns; Democratic. *Herald*, North Lansing, Mich. (weekly); five columns. *Evening City Item*, Philadelphia, Pa.; seven columns. *Free Press*, New York City (daily); Democratic. *Republican*, Jackson, Michigan (weekly). *Valley Record*, Catasauqua, Pa. (weekly); seven columns; Pryor & Bartholomew, editors and proprietors. *Herald*, Circleville, Ohio (weekly); eight columns; Republican; McCollister & Wolfey, publishers and editors. *Harrisonburg Enterprise*, Harrisonburg, Virginia (semi-weekly); eight pages, quarto; Conservative.

JEFFERSON BRICK.

An advertisement was sent to the Cleveland *Herald* office, on a recent Sunday night, in which occurred the words, "The Christian's Dream: No Cross, No Crown." The compositor made it read, "The Christian's Dream: No Cows, No Cream."

There is a Missouri country paper which boasts that the combined ages of the editor, foreman and devil of that office is thirty-five years. The editor is his own devil and foreman.

OLD NEWSPAPERS.—Many people take newspapers, but few persons preserve them. The most interesting reading imaginable is a file of old newspapers. It brings up the very age, with all its genius and its spirit, more than the most laboured description of the historian. Who can take a paper dated half a century ago without the thought that almost every name there printed is now cut upon a tombstone at the head of an epitaph? The doctor (quack or regular) that there advertised his medicines and their cures has followed the sable train of his patients; the merchant, his ships; and the actor, who could make others laugh or weep, can now furnish a skull for his successors in Hamlet. It is easy to preserve newspapers, and they will repay the trouble, for like wine, their value increases with age.—*Printers' Circular*.

An Italian newspaper, the *Eco d'Italia*, published twice a week in New York, represents the Italian periodical Press in America, and publishes in its appendices the novel "Clelia," written by General Garibaldi, and "Gli Scolari di Pisa," by Signor T. Gherardi del Testa. The editor is Cavaliere G. F. Seechi di Casale.—*Athenæum*.

CANADA.

Mr. Charles Dorion is the editor of the new paper — *Le Courier*—at Sorel. It is a neat presentable little sheet, and promises well.

The *Strathroy Age* is enlarged and improved.

The *Port Hope Times* is now issued daily.

A Scotch journalist, Mr. J. W. Finlay, committed suicide at Halifax last month. He established the *Scottish American Journal* of New York, and was for some time editor of the *New York Albion*.

The position attained by the *Globe* in Canadian journalism is something remarkable. The *Globe* is a credit to Canada. Its daily circulation is now over 25,000 copies, and its weekly circulation is now over 38,000. This is considerably in advance of any paper published on the continent, outside of New York, and is surpassed by few journals even of that vaunted metropolis.

WEST INDIES.

From Trinidad we have the *Port of Spain Gazette* of 27th and 30th, and regret to learn that with these terminates the issue of the *Gazette*, one of the best-conducted journals in the West Indies.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The seventy-sixth number of the *Illustrated Sydney News* announces that:—"The present number commences the seventh volume of our journal's existence; and, looking back upon its career, we can regard it with a great deal of warrantable satisfaction. It has safely passed the earliest, and therefore the most dangerous, stages of newspaper life."

VICTORIA.

A new paper was started at Bairnsdale, Victoria, on July the 7th, under the title of the *Mitchell River Herald*.

"ZOZIMUS," the Dublin *Punch*, is particularly hard upon the English Press, which in the course of eight verses he calls "servile," "slavish," "blatant," "sneaking," "faithless," "treacherous," "shameless," and "ribald." Had his power of rhyming held out, he might possibly have gone in for the "base," "bloody," and "brutal" of Dan O'Connell to help his *refrain*. Poor Mr. Sala, as "the versatile author of 'All Round my Hat' and other thrilling romances," is terribly out of pieces as a war correspondent for the "weak and scrupulous Christians of Fleet Street, E.C." *Zozimus* is evidently foaming with passion—let us hope he will not indulge in epilepsy like his godfather—for he is a child of promise. The *Knight Errant*, the second Dublin "Comic," is equally savage, though less witty. Under the head of "Latest War Telegrams," he says, "The correspondent of a leading London newspaper has just been sent beyond the lines on the plea that he has written the truth. The allegation is so improbable that the act is regarded as one of tyranny."

Law Intelligence.

THE Long Vacation, which we trust will not be followed by its usual crop of libel cases, gives us room for the insertion of the following report of a county court case, which presents some novel features which may be of interest to journalists. In this journal a few months ago, reference was made to the one paper which Rutlandshire possessed—the attempt to establish which was the primary cause of the litigation.

The *Midland Times*, published at Market Harborough, started in 1868, had obtained a considerable circulation in Uppingham, and the other parts of Rutlandshire; but it was thought that a special paper for Uppingham and its districts might have a fair chance of success. This explanation will make the following report more intelligible:—

COUNTY COURT, UPPINGHAM.

TAYLOR V. DRAKE.

This was an action to recover the sum of £23 14s. 2d., under the following circumstances.

In November last the plaintiff, as printer and proprietor of the *Midland Times*, undertook to withdraw the circulation of that paper from the Uppingham district, to re-make-up the matter, add intelligence more strictly local, and to issue the same on Wednesdays, under the title of the *Uppingham Gazette*. The defendant Drake, as plaintiff's agent and publisher, was to do all the correspondence relating to the town of Uppingham, to appoint district correspondents, if necessary, and county agents, to sell the paper. Plaintiff agreed to print the paper at 5s. 7d. per hundred; to allow defendant a commission of 12½ per cent. on all advertisements, and £1 5s. per quarter for his services as correspondent. An agreement was also entered into to the effect that the account for the newspapers supplied should be settled monthly, and that for advertisements quarterly, less the commission due. The statements of accounts were rendered regularly by plaintiff, as agreed, but a balance had never been agreed to. Plaintiff received defendant's acceptance in part payment of first account; other statements were rendered, and acceptances given therefor; but a balance was never obtained. Defendant did not render plaintiff an account for commissions, nor any statement of payments made on account of district correspondence, or for free copies of papers to advertisers, postages, &c., which plaintiff had agreed to allow. The defendant's first and second bills being dishonoured, plaintiff printed one more issue of the *Uppingham Gazette*, in which he stated that in future the *Gazette* would be incorporated with the *Midland Times*, and sold by the agent who vendeth it before the appearance of the *Uppingham Gazette*. Plaintiff's attorney held that his client claimed for the advertisements from the defendant according to the custom of the trade, and argued that defendant, having sent the advertisements, given the order, and, in many cases, altogether withheld the name of the customer, was liable for the amount, as in the case of advertising agencies, where the proprietor of the agency sends advertisements to different papers, and settles the account with the newspaper proprietor, without any reference to the party to whom the advertisement refers. The plaintiff deposed to having had considerable experience, in the course of business, as an advertising agent. He had sent advertisements for customers to scores of papers, and always considered himself responsible for payment, inasmuch as he looked to the customer for the money. The usual commission was ten per cent., but he allowed defendant 12½. The advertising business was clearly a guaranteeing agency between the newspaper proprietor and the agent, the former having no connection directly with the advertiser. Defendant had paid about £3 into court, and made a set-off for the remainder, the greater part of which plaintiff disputed. Defendant also disputed an amount for advertisements, for which he said he had not received the money, and was therefore not liable, although on previous occasions when the accounts were rendered he had not challenged his liability. Moreover, there was a claim of £6 for advertisements which were standing at the time the *Gazette* was discontinued, and which were continued for the remainder of the term in the *Midland Times*. A further claim was made for sundry advertisements which had been continued from quarter to quarter, although plaintiff could not prove that the order had been renewed every quarter, but it appeared from defendant's set-off that the advertisers had received free copies all along, and must have known that their advertisements were being continued. Plaintiff's witness, who would have proved the trade custom with regard to standing advertisements being absorbed by the paper into which the expired paper had merged, unfortunately missed the train, and was unable to be present. The defendant objected to the postponement of the case, and the judge ruled that he was not satisfied that defendant was liable for any sum beyond that paid into court, and gave a verdict for that amount.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.—OCTOBER 25.

(Before the Recorder.)

CHARGE OF LIBEL AGAINST A BARRISTER.

Mr. Cornelius Walford, barrister, and editor of the *Insurance Times*, surrendered to his bail, and was charged with publishing a false and defamatory libel concerning Arthur Bower Forwood and James Russell Ross. In a second indictment he was charged with publishing the libel knowing it to be false.

Mr. Serjeant Parry, Mr. Bewley, and Mr. Horne Payne appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Metcalfe defended.

The defendant pleaded guilty to the first indictment, but not guilty to the charge of publishing the libel knowing it to be false.

Our readers will remember that the libel made accusations against the prosecutors in reference to alleged marine insurance frauds.

Mr. Metcalfe stated that the article in which the libel was contained was brought to Mr. Walford just as his paper was going to press, and he certainly did publish it without sufficient care and consideration. He was afterwards

summoned to the Mansion House, and there Mr. Forwood and Mr. Ross swore to the untruth of the statements that had been published, and Mr. Walford had also made enquiries, and he was now convinced that he had made an error in allowing the article to appear. He was quite prepared to withdraw every imputation upon the characters of Mr. Forwood and Mr. Ross, and to express his contrition.

Mr. Serjeant Parry said that Mr. Forwood, who was the more immediate prosecutor, was a member of an established firm in Liverpool—Messrs. Leach, Harrison, and Forwood—which had been in business about three quarters of a century. He was also the managing director of the West India Steam Company, and an underwriter at Lloyd's; and Mr. Ross was also an underwriter. Immediately the libel appeared they took proceedings against the defendant, and since he had been committed for trial they learned that he had been a considerable sufferer. He had been compelled to resign an appointment he had held, the newspaper had ceased, and there were also circumstances of a domestic nature to which he would not allude. Under these circumstances the prosecutors would be satisfied if the defendant entered into recognizances to surrender for judgment if called upon to do so.

The Recorder said the libel was of such a character that the prosecutors were compelled to take proceedings; but the defendant had now done all a gentleman could be expected to do. When he discovered his error he acknowledged his fault and apologised, and he should consent to discharge the defendant upon his entering into his own recognizances.

This course was adopted, and the defendant was then discharged.

Our Monthly Necrology.

MR. JEREMIAH GARNETT.

OUR obituary records the death of Mr. Jeremiah Garnett, one of the founders of the *Manchester Guardian*, at the age of 77, but until very recently in as full possession of his health, activity, and faculties, as at any previous period of his life.

Mr. Garnett was born on the 2nd of October, 1793, at Wharfedale, Otley, the residence of his father, Mr. William Garnett, who was a paper manufacturer of that place. He was the third son in a numerous family, and his education, commenced under the Rev. Mr. Rye, of Otley, was completed at Rawden, near Leeds, where he left school, about the year 1809, to learn the business of a printer and publisher at Barnsley. Mr. Garnett came to Manchester in 1814 or 1815, and formed his first connection with the newspaper world by entering the office of *Wheeler's Chronicle*, and to the staff of that journal he continued to be attached—with the exception of a brief episode of six months, in 1819, during which he edited the *West Riding Gazette* at Huddersfield—until the foundation some six years later of the *Manchester Guardian*. As a proof of the reputation which he had acquired at this early period for ability and diligence in the collection and arrangement of intelligence, it may be observed that he was employed to prepare an elaborate memoir of the disturbances in the manufacturing districts in 1819 for the information of the Secretary of State for Home Affairs, to whom it was in due course submitted.

Mr. Garnett was still a young man when his previous experience of newspaper business was enlisted in support of the task of starting the *Manchester Guardian*, which made its first appearance as a sevenpenny weekly journal on the 5th of May, 1821. At that time no existing local newspaper, if any published in the provinces, laid what would now be considered even a plausible claim to originality and self-reliance either in the collection of news or in the discussion of public affairs. The political confidence of the early promoters of the new venture was vested in Mr. John Edward Taylor, whose distinction as an amateur in journalism was already believed to mark him out for a leading position in the advocacy of Liberal principles. The earlier circumstances of Mr. Garnett's career caused him to be chosen, on the other hand, for the practical conduct of the business department, and his name, consequently, appeared in the prospectus of the new paper and in the imprint of its first issue as its printer and responsible publisher.

Beyond aspiring to the hitherto unoccupied position of an original organ of local political opinion, the *Guardian* aimed at another novel feature in the fulness and accuracy of its accounts of local occurrences. In the Press of fifty years ago reports of meetings and other public proceedings, inclusive even of the debates of the municipal government of the time, were both rare and untrustworthy, the public knowledge of the speeches delivered on such occasions being generally confined, when it was furnished at all, to notes supplied by the speakers themselves.

Mr. Garnett's attention had been turned from the earliest date of his connection with journalism to the correction of this defect. Commenting on the copious records of public utterances of every kind which are now supplied to daily readers, he used to state that he believed that a report of a parliamentary reform meeting which he had taken in his note-book and published in *Wheeler's Chronicle* was the first report, properly so called, which ever appeared in a Manchester newspaper. The characteristic qualities of fidelity and completeness in local reporting which were thus imparted to the *Guardian* from its commencement were continuously sustained under Mr. Garnett's direction, and were gradually developed until, through the subsequent introduction of the practice of shorthand writing, the columns of newspapers came to provide the full and accurate reflection which they now afford of the proceedings of all public meetings in which their readers are presumed to be interested.

Mr. Garnett succeeded to a leading share in the direction of the *Manchester Guardian* on the decease of his partner, the original founder and editor of the paper, in January, 1844. Little more than four years later, the early death of Mr. Russell Scott Taylor left the editorship-in-chief exclusively in his hands. He finally retired from all active duties in connection with this office at the beginning of 1861.

Mr. Garnett was twice married. His family consisted, in addition to a son who died in infancy, of three daughters, one alone of whom surviving, together with several grandchildren, continued to the last the objects of a domestic affection of unusual strength and tenderness. Of his private generosity a long train of witnesses could speak, if it were necessary or fitting to testify to that which he always studiously endeavoured to conceal.

M. PROSPER MERIMEE.

M. Prosper Merimee has died at Cannes, whither he retired some years ago for the purpose of recruiting his health. M. Merimee was a critic on almost all subjects—painting, architecture, drama, and history, as well as a writer of history. He was a biographer, an essayist, and a writer of romances. And, lastly, he contributed several articles to the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, the *Globe*, the *Constitutionnel*, the *Moniteur*, &c. He was Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Marine, under Louis Philippe, one of the Commissioners appointed to take an inventory of the property of the Orleans family in 1848, and a Senator and Commander of the Legion of Honour under the Empire. He was a special favourite with the Imperial family. He was born in 1803.

MR. JAMES EVANS.

This gentleman, whose death on August 28th, at Cannes, in the South of France, is announced, was the founder of the *Record* newspaper, the first successful attempt in this country at religious journalism.

He was born in June, 1792, near Evesham, in Worcestershire. After passing through some preparatory education, he was placed with a clergyman (the Rev. Mr. Homfray), where "the kind and amicable way in which the family was conducted left a lasting impression on his mind."

His father was intent upon entering him at Oxford, but an impediment in his speech rendered him averse to appearing in a public university.

He subsequently went to Edinburgh for the sake of attending the lectures of the then eminent professors, and then resolved to enter on the medical profession, if he could obtain his father's permission. His circumstances, however, subsequently rendered him independent of any profession, although for several years he continued chiefly to reside in Edinburgh. "There," he says, "I became very intimate with Mr. Andrew Hamilton. We were both intent upon spiritual things, and much desirous of being led aright. We undertook together the editorship of the *Scottish Missionary Register*."

In the year 1828, having returned to London, he started the *Record* newspaper. It was his object to show that it was possible to present a "Record" of passing events which, in the words of his own prospectus, "should offer nothing offensive

to the eye of decency or derogatory to the claims of morality and religion ; " which should " follow truth and justice rather than party spirit in its politics ; " which should " present, together with extensive information of a general character, a large accession of interesting intelligence relative to the advancement of education, civilisation, and religion ; and, without forfeiting respectable claims to vigour and intelligence, should exclude from its pages whatever would render it an objectionable guest in that sanctuary of modesty and refined feeling—the bosom of a well-regulated English family."

In the first instance he took counsel with his old friend Mr. Andrew Hamilton, his colleague in the *Missionary Register*. They next applied to Mr. J. Stuckey Reynolds, whose energy greatly aided the enterprise ; and then each invited the aid of select friends, such as the Rev. Henry Blunt and others. Bishop Daniel Wilson gave it his best wishes, but deemed its failure inevitable from the impossibility of satisfying so many opposing and capricious tastes and sentiments as existed in the religious world, and from the certainty of personal offence being given in maintaining an independent line of action.

Mr. Thomas Erskine, of Linlathen, subscribed £100 to the experiment, and the celebrated Dr. Newman was another who assisted both with his purse and his gifted pen ; but both these supporters and the *Record* soon parted company. The money subscribed was repaid.

Mr. Evans first married a daughter of Lady Carnegie, grandmother of the present Earl of South Esk, and by this marriage became the brother-in-law of several men eminent in the Christian world, among whom may be mentioned the late Sir Andrew Agnew, Mr. Douglas of Cavers, Admiral Wauchope, and the still surviving Mr. Graham of Edmund Castle. After a happy union of more than thirty years he became a widower ; and, after an interval of several years, married a most excellent French Protestant lady, who tended him with affectionate care and soothed the declining years of his old age.

Having lived and laboured so much abroad, and having finally in his old age allied himself by marriage to the continent, it was not unnatural that he should finally adopt France as his residence. He had always a constructive turn, and had successively built for himself houses for his domicile, first in Cumberland, near Edmund Castle, then at Norwood, and afterwards at Cannes, where he lived and died in his pleasant villa of La Bruyère. During the summer months he used to move for change of air to Meudon, not far from Paris, where he also built a convenient house for his summer quarters.

Mr. Evans was well-known in France as the founder of *L'Espérance*, the organ of the Evangelical Protestants, long edited by Dr. Grandpierre.

MR. CHARLES CURTIS.

At a good ripe age—74 years—another old Brightonian has been called away—Mr. Charles Curtis (of the firm of Curtis and Son), senior proprietor of the *Brighton Gazette*. Born in 1795, when Brighton was in its infancy, he, at the accustomed age, entered upon the printing business. To perfect himself, after an apprenticeship, he resorted to London, and in March, 1821, returned to Brighton, accepting an engagement as compositor upon the *Brighton Gazette*, a few weeks after its establishment, the publishing office being Donaldson's Library, Old Steine, and the proprietor, Mr. Edward Hill Creasy, a name ever to be respected in Brighton, and which respect has descended to his son, Sir Edward Creasy, the Chief Justice of Ceylon, a man gifted as a lawyer, scholar, and author. His services being appreciated, Mr. Curtis had the "making up" of the *Gazette* (then a sevenpenny journal with an impressed stamp of fourpence), ever after, and of superintending the same. Those were not days of steam and machinery—a "doubleroyal columbia" slowly doing the required work. As years rolled on, Mr. John Baker became connected with the *Gazette*, and assumed the editorship. His "leaders" were never great, but were most carefully and studiously written, and for "literals," as well as the general matter, were models ; reprints, scissors and paste, being abhorred. Marrying a sister of Mr. Creasy, he was made a partner in the concern, the firm becoming "Creasy & Baker." Upon the death of Mr. Creasy, the

editing and conducting for years after devolved upon Mr. Baker. The latter experiencing a long and painful illness, Mr. Curtis was given an interest in the business, and upon the death of Mr. Baker in 1861, he became sole proprietor of the *Gazette*, subject to a provision for his widow and other members of the Creasy family, all now deceased. Later, his son, Mr. William Curtis, who had passed an apprenticeship and managed the publishing and financial department, became a partner with his father, and upon upon him now devolves the management of the *Brighton Gazette*, one of the best journals in the South of England, to which is attached a general printing establishment equal to any in the county. Mr. Curtis had enjoyed good health until within the last three years, but unless prohibited by his medical adviser, he was never absent a day from his post. Though lacking physical energy of late, he exercised supervision to the last, in which he was cheerfully assisted by his eldest son, and two younger ones engaged upon the literary department. Perhaps few printing offices extant could boast of such a staff as the *Brighton Gazette*,—apprentices growing into workmen, continuing their servitude, and pleasantly—nay almost affectionately, serving their former co-labourer and after employer. In proof might be quoted three old hands now on the firm, who have held their frames since 1824, 1827, and 1830, respectively. The deceased prided himself upon his "boys," as he termed them, not one of whom, at the expiry of apprenticeship, was cast adrift upon the world—even the least promising having months of regular employ that they might seek a fresh field of labour. Many in his time obtained excellent situations in London offices, where general practical hands are always appreciated, whilst others in Brighton and elsewhere, have become their own masters or benefited themselves by the knowledge and experience imparted to them. A son (the eldest born), Charles Cooke Curtis, who ably aided his father, and was thoroughly *au fait* to the numerous duties of a publishing and printing establishment, died some years since, leaving a wife and daughter, whom the deceased cherished and cared for to the last. Mr. Curtis, in private life, was one of the old school, and has outlived many friends, with whom the few leisure hours he allowed himself were most agreeably passed. His familiar face will be missed, and his uprightness and kindness will be regarded by the many with whom he was brought in contact. As a husband (a widower for upwards of 20 years), he was an affectionate partner—as a parent, his sons well know the great loss which they have sustained and lament ; and as a business man, we can scarcely anticipate many following a like occupation so harmoniously and satisfactorily for a period (within a few months) of 50 years. Mr. Curtis, who had been in the enjoyment of tolerable health, was at his residence, 4, Prince's Place, Brighton, seized with an attack of paralysis, on Tuesday, July 26th, which affected the use of his right side. He rallied a little, and, a few days before his death, with assistance crossed his room, and entertained the hope of partial recovery. At midday, on Sunday, he was seized with a second attack, rendering him totally unconscious, in which state he remained until two o'clock of the morning of Monday, when, without pain, and surrounded by his three sons, his daughter-in-law and child, and other members of the family, and the very kind medical attendant and friend Mr. Cordy Burrows, he quietly closed his earthly career. The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon (Oct. 22nd) at the Extramural Cemetery, Brighton, the sons, William, James, and Frederick, being the chief mourners, in addition to Mr. Cordy Burrows and Mr. Edmundus Burn (a very old and cherished friend of deceased.) A kind tribute to departed worth was paid by the *employés* of deceased—men and boys, together with old apprentices now in other employ, following sorrowfully their old and respected master to his last resting place.

M. JULES DUVAL.

In our obituary last month we recorded the death, in the railway accident near Tours, of M. Jules Duval of the *Journal des Débats*. M. Duval was 57 years of age, having been born in 1813. He was a barrister by profession, but emigrated rather early in life to Algeria, where his career as a journalist began. His connexion with the *Débats* dates from 1855. His death, following

that of Prevost-Paradol and Eugene Forcade, is a great loss to French journalism. M. Duval was a contributor to the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, and was the author of numerous books, including several on Algeria.

MR. W. H. SOMERTON.

With deep regret we record in our obituary the death of Mr. W. H. Somerton, who was for so many years identified, as proprietor and manager, with the conduct of the *Bristol Mercury*. It is now upwards of thirteen years, nearly half a generation, since he retired from that position, and for some considerable time past he had resided at Bayswater, where he died, after a long and painful illness, on the 25th of September, in the 75th year of his age. A native of Bristol, he spent all the active years of his life in the old city. In his time he played a not unimportant, if unobtrusive, part in connexion with its concerns. It was so far back as November, 1829—more than forty years ago—that Mr. Somerton became proprietor of the *Bristol Mercury*, which, started March 1, 1790, had in the interval gone through many vicissitudes, and which had then certainly reached a very low ebb. It was at that time published on a Monday evening, which time its new proprietor altered to Tuesday morning, and before very long he wisely transferred the day of publication to Saturday. For years after the paper came into his possession the conduct of it was an uphill and unremunerative game; but he brought to bear upon its management a great degree of judgment, and an amount of unwearied industry which, so directed, could scarcely fail in time to have, as it had, its own reward. Bristol newspapers, and, in fact, provincial newspapers generally, at the period when he took to the *Mercury*, presented anything but the ample records of passing events which they now offer. Local affairs were dismissed in meagre paragraphs, and there could scarcely be said to be any reporting. The truthfulness of this last remark will probably be best illustrated by the fact that the proceedings of the four benevolent societies which meet annually in Bristol to commemorate the pious philanthropy of Colston, were dismissed in the paper in the year in which he took to it in thirty small lines. In the columns of the *Mercury*, under the new régime, public meetings soon came to have something like a proper record, the doings in the police and other courts were chronicled for the first time, and local affairs generally found fitting exposition. At the time of the melancholy riots in 1831 the paper gained increased influence by the fulness and excellence of its reports, and as a proof of its manager's energy it may be mentioned, that he deprived himself of all regular rest for an entire week during that exciting period. To his pen we owe the full report which was afterwards published in a separate form, as "A Narrative of the Bristol Riots," and which is still referred to as the history of that important local epoch. The same spirit was carried out in dealing with other periods of national interest, and the *Mercury* came to be regarded as the ardent champion of popular rights, and to be valued for the honest independence which it always manifested. Single-minded integrity and fearless independence were, indeed, combined with strong sound sense, the leading characteristics of the deceased, and to these should be added thorough kindness of heart. It is not too much to say that his genial qualities made him liked, as his mental powers made him respected, by all with whom he was associated. Mr. Somerton in 1857 resigned the reins of management, with the view of seeking for the last decade of his life the retirement he had fairly earned. Afflicted during his closing years with a good deal of painful illness, he bore it with much resignation, retaining his clear intellect and kindly feelings to the last.

MR. JOHN KEENE.

Mr. John Keene, who died on the 10th of September in his seventy-sixth year, was for more than forty years one of the proprietors of *Keene's Bath Journal*, one of the oldest surviving papers in the kingdom, having been established in 1742. It has been in the hands of Mr. Keene's family almost from the period of its foundation. It is now the property of his sons, Messrs. John and James Keene.

Home Subjects.

NEWSPAPERS, &c., FOR QUEENSLAND.—At the request of the Government of Queensland, no newspapers, &c., addressed to that colony will, until further notice, be forwarded by the route of San Francisco and New Zealand.

THE "LEICESTER CHRONICLE" announces the death of a recently-established Conservative paper, the *Leicester Daily Express*, and adds:—"We are rather surprised to learn that among the contributors, or shareholders, of the defunct paper occur the names of the Duke of Rutland, Lord John Manners, Mr. Clowes, M.P., and various persons resident in Leicester."

THE "STATIONERS' WEEKLY GAZETTE" was started on the 7th of September, as the "Organ of the Paper, Stationery, Printing, Book, Fine Arts, Fancy Goods, and all other Associate Trades." We have received eight copies which promise well.

THE "MORNING ADVERTISER" AND MR. JAMES GRANT.—The difference between the committee of the *Morning Advertiser* and their editor had nothing, we are assured, to do with his opinions political or theological, but was simply a question of honorarium. Mr. Grant's engagement will not terminate till the 7th of December.

THE EDITORSHIP OF THE "MORNING ADVERTISER"—Mr. Risborough Sharman is mentioned as one of the candidates for the editorship of the *Morning Advertiser*. Mr. Sharman has long been aiding as sub-editor, and few men are better known in Fleet-street and its neighbourhood. A barrister and man of letters, Mr. Sharman has had an ample experience of newspaper life. He was in the Gallery many years, and has recently founded and edited the *Insurance Guardian*.

NEWPORT (Monmouthshire) now possesses a daily evening paper, bearing the title of the *Evening Telegram*, at the price of a halfpenny. It seems to be got up with some spirit and we wish it success. Mr. William Nicholas Johns is the proprietor.

"BELL'S LIFE IN LONDON."—This journal has abandoned its penny Wednesday issue, and returned to its old weekly publication, "in deference," it says, "to the repeated wishes of numerous subscribers." Probably the absence of an adequate expression of the wishes of the public as regarded the mid-weekly edition had more influence in bringing things back to their old routine.

THE writer of the descriptions of the German army before Metz, that have appeared in the *Daily News*, is Mr. Archibald Forbes, proprietor of the *London Scotsman* newspaper.

"FUN" has, we hear, recently changed hands.

THE "LONDON FIGARO" has gone into the premises lately occupied by *The Tomahawk*, corner of Milford Lane (next to the *Illustrated London News*), which it dubs "The Figaro Building (!)"

NEW AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.—A new halfpenny journal is shortly to be started in Dublin, to be devoted to the land and farming interest. It is to be issued fortnightly, and will be conducted by a gentleman well known for his writings on agricultural questions.

TERRA TERROREM.—In the debate on the Judges' Jurisdiction Bill Lord Westbury said that "the judicature and justice administered in the one class of courts were a perfect *terra incognita* to the practitioners of the other." The reporter made his lordship say that the Court of Equity were "a perfect terror" to the Courts of Law.

VITAL ADVANTAGE OF TAKING A PAPER.

I knew two friends as much alike
As e'er you saw two stumps,
And no phrenologist could find
A difference in their bumps.

One took a paper, and his life
Was happier than a king's;
His children all could read and write,
And talk of men and things.

The other took no papers, and,
While strolling through the wood,
A tree fell down upon his crown,
And killed him—as it should.

Had he been reading of the news
At home like neighbour Jim,
I'll bet a cent this accident
Had not befallen him!

A master passion is the love of news,
Not music so commands, nor so the Muse;
To news all readers turn, and they can look
Pleased on a paper, who abhor a book.

CRABBE.

Home Subjects.

"BLARNEY."—The success of the Dublin comic journal *Zosimus* seem to have encouraged others into the field; a new venture, *The Knight Errant*, has come out, dealing with local events and illustrating them with a cartoon in colours, and initial letters, the latter being quaintly-designed woodcuts. A third is announced by a Dublin publisher, to be called *Blarney*, "a weekly periodical of Satire, Sociology, Literature and Art."

THE plan of taking applicants at the *Times* office is this. Every compositor seeking a situation upon that journal is tried upon his own merits, whatever influence he may possess in any other way. Sufficient letter, and some rather intricate MS., to produce a galley, is given out to the aspirant, and his distribution and composition is timed. His proof is then read over by the reader, and handed in to the manager, who forms his own opinion upon the nature and style of the work thus produced. We hear of some remarkable feats being performed in this way occasionally.—*Press News*.

THE POSTAL REVOLUTION.—The proprietors of the *Times* hope to largely increase its sale when the Marquis of Hartington's very handsome present to that journal falls in. They mean to supply country subscribers direct, instead of through the newagent, as at present, and to that end are having folding-machines erected. This is rather a serious matter for the news-vendors, and especially so to Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P. for Westminster, who takes 80,000 copies every morning.—*Stallioner*.

DAILY "EXHIBITION" PAPER.—A very creditable publication comes out daily at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, and will continue to come out every morning as long as the Exhibition remains open. It is called the *Workmen's International Exhibition Chronicle*, and contains a daily record of events connected with the Exhibition, copious gleanings from general literature, and a goodly show of advertisements, at the price of a penny.

THE "LONDON WORLD" is the title of a new penny weekly semi-newspaper just started, combining news and tales. Having been taken in by the announcement of the *Day's Doings*, we have examined this new comer carefully, and must confess that there is nothing of an objectionable character in it—on the contrary, the tone seems healthy, the original articles carefully written, and the selection of extracts judicious. It may be useful in superseding the ribald so called newspapers which have lately sprung up.

WAR PAPERS.—The declaration of war between France and Prussia had scarcely been made public, when three penny illustrated weekly papers appeared almost simultaneously in London, the *War News*, *War Journal*, and *War Gazette*.

PENNY JOURNALISM.—The first article in the first number of the new quarterly "Rectangular Review," was entitled "Penny Paperism," in which the writer expresses the opinion that the cheap Press has been productive of much mischief.

THE "PRESTON EVENING GUARDIAN."—We have received the first number of a new two page halfpenny journal with the above title. It is dated July 25th, and contains a good selection of news.

M. THIEBLAND, better known as "Azamat-Batuk," the war correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, has been expelled from France as being the reporter of a journal "in the pay of Prussia."

THE first number of a new art journal will appear on the 1st of September. It is called *The School of Design*, and among its contributors are numbered Sir Digby Wyatt and Mr. Redgrave.

CAPTAIN DASHWOOD, who has recently sold out of the 91st (Argyle-shire) Highlanders, has left England for Mayence, to be special correspondent at the seat of war, on the Prussian side, to a daily paper.

AMONG THE ENGLISH CORRESPONDENTS who were arrested at Metz were Mr. Henry Mayhew of the *Globe*, Mr. Simpson, the artist, a Mr. Cameron, and a correspondent of a Belfast newspaper.

MR. N. A. WOODS, who was in the Crimea for the *Morning Herald*, and has been special correspondent for the *Times* on several recent notable occasions, is the war correspondent of the *Scotsman*.

MR. BALA writes from the seat of war, "That energetic journal, the *Gaulois*, is said to maintain six-and-twenty correspondents in the field, thus beating the *New York Herald* by one and a-half. The half correspondent, I should explain, is a mule, on which one of the gentlemen of the Press is mounted."

THE *Saturday Review* describes *Reynolds's* and *Lloyd's* newspapers as "the buzz-flies of dirt, who stink and sting."

ANOTHER NEW "SATIRICAL" PAPER is talked of—to be called the *Grumbler*, with political, social, and satirical cartoons by an eminent artist. The price is to be one penny.

THE "CLERKENWELL NEWS" gives us some interesting statistics relative to advertising. On Friday, April 29, the number of advertisements in the London daily papers were as follows:—*Clerken-*

well News, 3,451; *The Times*, 1,786; *Telegraph*, 1,624; *Daily News*, 652; *Standard*, 647; *Advertiser*, 245.

"MRS. BROWN'S BUDGET" is the title of a new humorous weekly penny publication started on the 1st ult., and edited by "Arthur Sketchley."

NEWSPAPER SPECULATION.—Perhaps more money is lost in old countries in efforts to establish newspapers than in any other branch of business wherein so few prizes are obtainable. The crops of journals which spring up like mushrooms in London, and disappear even more suddenly, testify to the loss, for each represents a considerable outlay, while the journals successfully established within a decade, can be counted on the fingers of one hand.—*Anglo-American Times*.

THE WAR MAPS given by our great "dailies" lead to no flattering conclusion as to the progress made in that particular branch of art in the course of more than half a century. Indeed those of the *Times* and *Daily News* are nowise superior to the rough "plans of the seat of war" which were given in the *Times* and *Bell's Weekly Messenger* from 1809 to 1814, which are now before us, as we write this paragraph.

PRESS TESTIMONIAL.—Mr. John Addison, who has been connected with the *Brierly Hill Advertiser* for ten years, has received a well earned compliment. On his leaving that paper for a Birmingham one, a public meeting was held to present him with a gold watch and chain, accompanied by a purse containing 50*l*. The subscription list was headed by the Earl of Dudley, and amongst the subscribers were the M.P.'s for Dudley and Kidderminster, the county representatives of Stafford and Worcester, the county magistrates and gentry. Mr. Addison had previously been presented at Stourbridge with ten volumes of Chambers's "Cyclopædia," valued at 7*l*., and a cheque for 15*l*. 15*s*. by his Stourbridge friends.

"IT'S AN ILL WIND," &c.—Our Newcastle contemporary published the following statement lately. The great interest taken by the public of this district in the progress of the war, may be estimated by the fact that we published yesterday 40,000 copies of the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*.

THE "TOMAHAWK" has come to grief with the fallen fortunes of its last owner, Sir William Russell. Its editor, Mr. Arthur A. Beckett, writes to the papers:—"Owing to the inability of the liquidator of the estate of Sir William Russell, Bart., to comply with an order of the Court of Bankruptcy in reference to the *Tomahawk*, I am forced to stop the publication of that periodical at the height of its popularity."

Obituary.

CAMPBELL, EDWARD SELBY, of the Parliamentary Staff of the *Morning Advertiser*, on the 17th ult., aged 32.

CASSIDY, THOMAS J., for fifty years connected with the Irish Press, in his 70th year, at Limerick, on the 22nd ult.

HODDER, GEORGE, a well known journalist, late of the *Morning Post*, from the effects of a carriage accident, July 30th.

JUDAH, E. J., editor of the *Quincy Monitor* (U.S.A.), May 28th, by his own hand.

KIMBERLY, CHARLES W., a well known reporter on the American Press; and for the last sixteen years connected with the *Baltimore American*, June 6th, aged 45.

THOMAS, GEORGE E., city editor of the *Omaha Republican*, and formerly connected with the *New York Herald* and *Chicago Tribune*, June 7th, a man of brilliant attainments, well known throughout the Press world of the United States.

BANKRUPTS.

GRENVILLE MURRAY, EUSTACE CLARE, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, newspaper proprietor.

JUCH, ERNEST, Crane Court, Fleet Street, journalist.

Notes and Queries.

HIBERNICUS.—In 1833, Mr. Carson, proprietor of the *Clonsmel Advertiser*, was fined £1200 and 6*d*. costs, for a libel on Dominick Romayne, Esq., M.P., arising out of election excitement. In 1837, the same paper suffered a verdict in the Record Court, of £500 and 6*d*. costs, for a libel alleging that Miss Johnson had eloped with one of her relations. At the Waterford assizes in the same year, the *Tipperary Constitution* was mulcted in £100, and the *Tipperary Free Press* in £1000 for libel. This is all the information our Dublin correspondent can obtain for you, with reference to Tipperary. In May, 1835, Mrs. Lord, registered proprietress of the *Curlew Post*, was held to bail for a libel on Dr. Stone, written by a priest. Search the records.

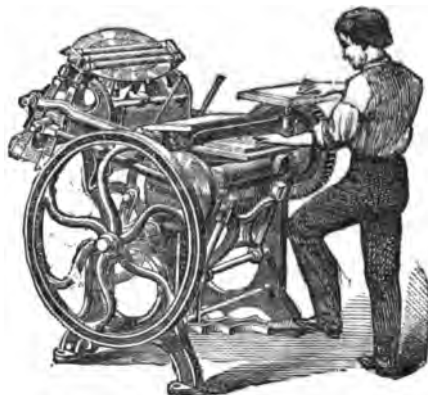
H. S. CROPPER & CO.'S PATENT "MINERVA" PRINTING MACHINE.

This is the most Compact, Elegant, and Speedy Platen

Machine ever Made.

CAN BE WORKED BY HAND, FOOT, OR STEAM.

One Youth may Print



2,500 Impressions per Hour.

MAY BE SEEN AT WORK DAILY AT

H. S. CROPPER & Co.'s, NOTTINGHAM,

Patentees and Manufacturers.

TESTIMONIALS.

31, Bucklersbury, London, Oct. 2, 1867.

Messrs. H. S. Cropper and Co.

Gentlemen,—We have pleasure in informing you that the "Minerva" Printing Machine, supplied to us about two months ago, gives us entire satisfaction. The simplicity of its arrangement, beauty of construction, and excellence of workmanship, combined with its other qualifications, justify all that you told us in its favour. The ease of its motion, and its great speed, are important features in the "Minerva;" whilst the freedom from danger in working assists in rendering it a very desirable machine.

Yours respectfully, UNWIN BROTHERS.

Coventry, Oct. 15, 1867.

Messrs. Cropper and Co., Nottingham.

Gentlemen,—We most willingly give our testimony to the value and efficiency of your "Minerva" Machine, especially with regard to its speed and economy. We consider it the most useful time-saving machine that has come under our notice.

We remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
CURTIS AND BEAMISH.

6, Cardington-street, Hampstead-road, London, N.W., Oct. 4, 1867.

Dear Sirs,—We have pleasure in stating that the "Minerva" Machine supplied to us gives satisfaction in every respect.

As a Machine for Cards and Small Jobs, we consider it unequalled, both in quality of work and the ease by which Jobs can be started.

Your Machine deserves a large sale.

Yours truly (for M'CORQUODALE and Co.),
D. CULROSS.

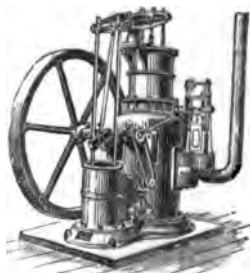
Since the above testimonial was given, Messrs. M'Corquodale and Co. have ordered a second machine.

Messrs. Cropper and Co.

Halifax, 23rd October, 1867.

Gentlemen,—The "Minerva" gives entire satisfaction. Every movement is smooth and easy, and the machine may, on this account, be run at a very high speed without danger. The distribution is perfect, and the form is rolled more evenly than could be done by hand. We are very much pleased with it.

We are, Gentlemen, yours most truly,
T. and W. BIRTWHISTLE.



THE PRINTERS' ENGINE.

EDWARDS & CO.,

37, KING WILLIAM ST., LONDON, E.C.,

MANUFACTURERS OF THE

PATENT HOT-AIR ENGINE.

THE ABOVE ENGINE IS BY FAR THE MOST ECONOMICAL MOTIVE POWER KNOWN.
COST OF WORKING, ONE PENNY PER HORSE POWER PER HOUR.

IT REQUIRES NO ENGINEER.
IT REQUIRES NO WATER.

IT REQUIRES NO GAS.
IT REQUIRES NO FITTING.
IT CAN BE STARTED IN A FEW MINUTES.

IT CANNOT EXPLODE.
IT DOES NOT INCREASE INSURANCE.

Sold by HUGHES & KIMBER, West Harding St., Fetter Lane, London.

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ESTABLISHED 1716.

Manufacturers of every description of NEWSPAPER, BOOK, and JOBBING TYPE, will have much pleasure in forwarding a copy of their Specimen Book on application.

Special attention is given to Newspaper Founts, which are cast in extra Hard Metal, combined with the most accurate manufacture.

The original OLD-FACED LETTERS, engraved in the early part of the Last Century, by the celebrated WILLIAM CASLON, are in this Foundry.

PATENT GUILLOTINE PAPER-CUTTING MACHINE,

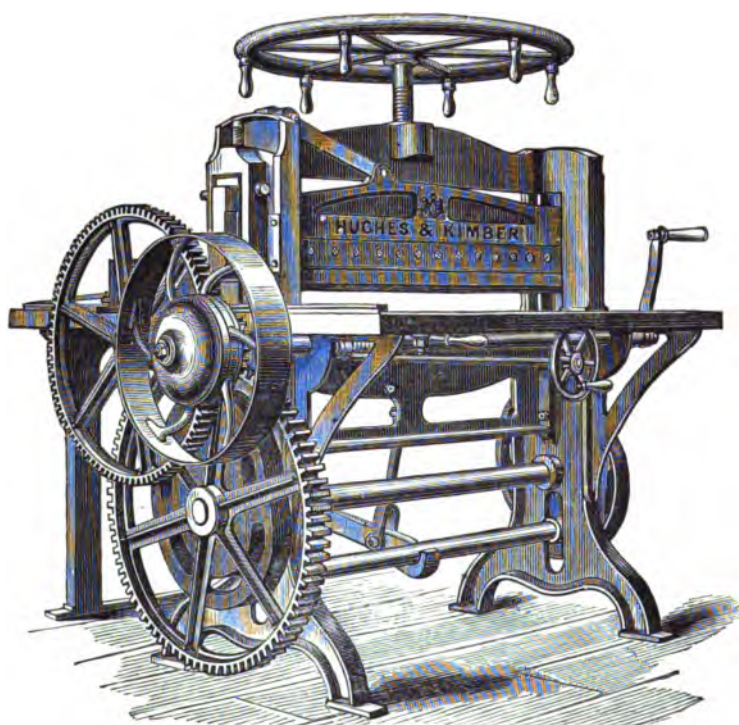
With combined Motion for Cutting Vertically or Diagonally, by Hand or Steam power,

IN USE AT

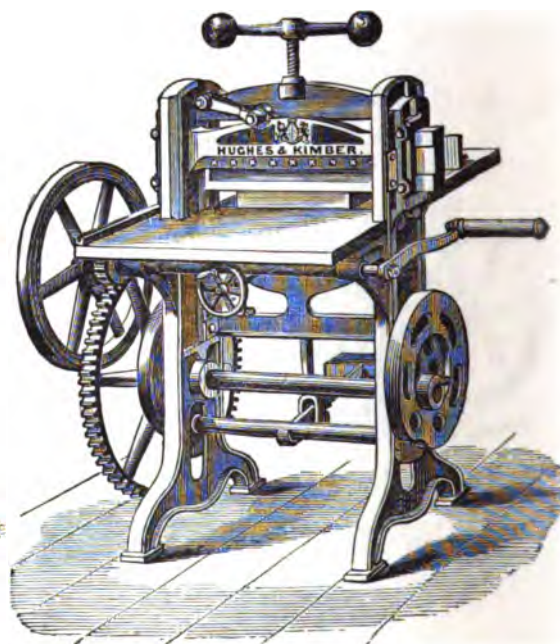
HER MAJESTY'S "ROYAL ARSENAL"
THE BANK OF ENGLAND
" "TIMES" OFFICE
" DAILY TELEGRAPH (2 Machines)
" MORNING AND EVENING STAR
Messrs. EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE (Queen's Printers, 5 Machines)
" PETTER & GALPIN (2 Machines)
" CHARLES MORGAN & Co.
" PERKINS, BACON, & Co.
" FOURDRINIER, HUNT, & Co.
" LEIGHTON BROTHERS (Milford House)
" J. DICKINSON & Co.
" J. M. KRONHEIM & Co. (4 Machines)

Messrs. WATERLOW & SON (4 Machines)
" GOODALL & DINSDALE (2 Machines)
" C. ROBINSON & Co.
" W. BONE & SON
" T. R. EELES & SON (3 Machines)
" BARRY & HAYWARD
" R. S. STACY & SONS (2 Machines)
" SAUNDERS, DYET, & SAUNDERS
" GEO. ROWNY & Co.
Mr. T. H. SAUNDERS (Maidstone Wharf)
" T. F. NEWELL (2 Machines)
" R. BARRET
" W. BISHOP

And numerous other Establishments in Town and Country.



FOR STEAM POWER.



FOR HAND.

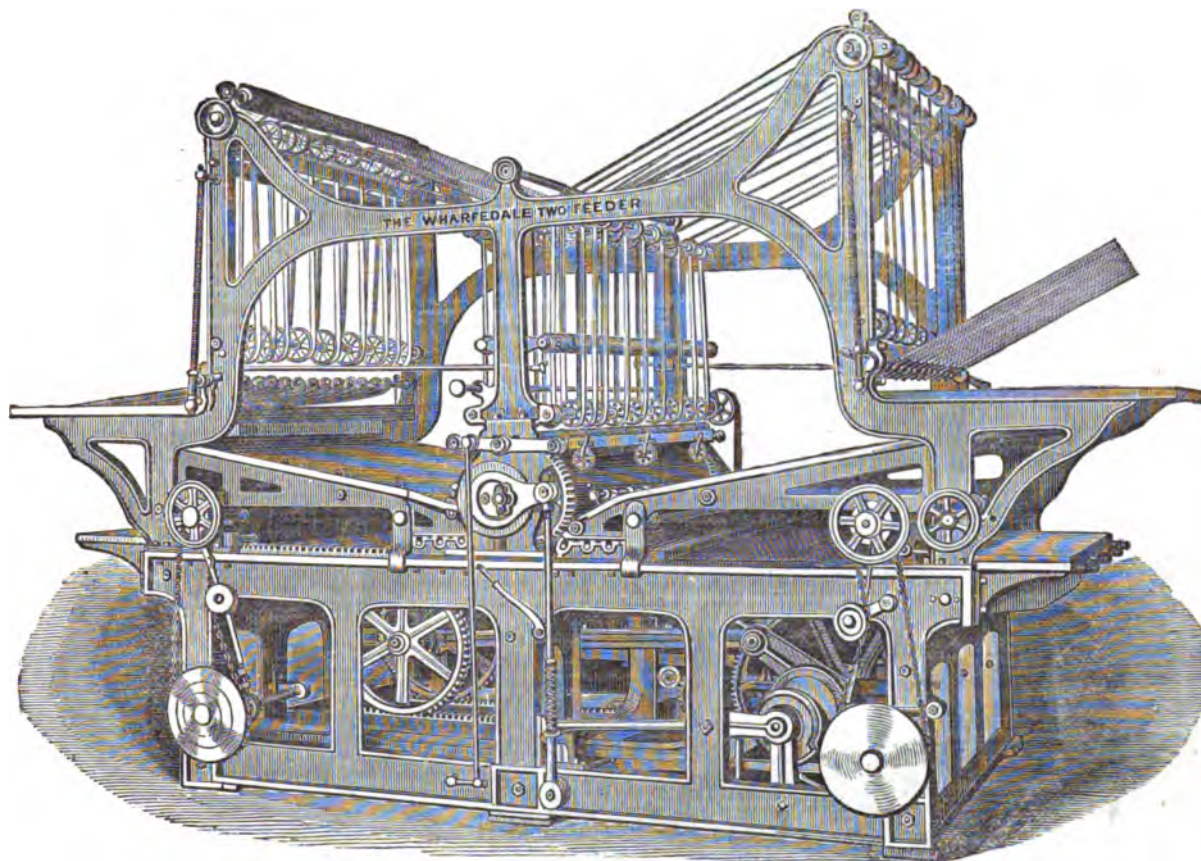
This Machine is especially constructed for the cutting of Millboard, Cardboard, and Enamelled, Brown, Cartridge, Tea, Sugar, and soft and hard Printing Papers.

The change from the Vertical to the Diagonal Cut, and *vice versa*, is instantaneously affected by the simple withdrawal or insertion of a large Joint Pin. The Machine is carefully adjusted, well finished, and owing to its continuous movement, works with great ease and efficiency. Being fitted with a Patent Friction Pulley, the Knife can be stopped instantly at any required height. It is invaluable where large quantities are cut and power is available.

HUGHES & KIMBER,

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ASHFIELD FOUNDRY, OTLEY, YORKSHIRE.
WILLIAM DAWSON & SON,
PRINTERS' ENGINEERS.



[TWO-FEEDER MACHINE.]

WITH PATENT FLYERS, FOR DELIVERING THE SHEETS PRINTED SIDE UPWARDS.

MANUFACTURERS OF
 THE WHARFEDALE TWO-FEEDER PRINTING MACHINE (to print 3,500 per hour)
 " " CYLINDER ditto (to print 1,500 per hour).
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 " " CYLINDER, TWO COLOR ditto
 " " CYLINDER, TUMBLER ditto
 " DIAGONAL AND VERTICAL PAPER CUTTING MACHINES for Steam and Hand Power.
 " IMPERIAL PAPER CUTTING MACHINE.

Also Millboard and Card Cutting Machines, Label Cutting Machine for Steam and Hand Power, Rolling Machine for Bookbinders and Printers, with Cast and Chilled Rollers; Paper Ruling Machines, Perforating Machines, Ink Grinding Mills, for Steam Power; Athol and Screw Presses, Steam Engines, Boilers, Shafting, &c.; Book-Sawing and Book-Scoring Machines, Iron Imposing Surfaces and Stands, Machine and Press Roller Moulds, Wrought and Cast Iron Chases, Side and Foot Sticks.

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